"I am delighted to be reading in the Age of Riri." – Comicosity.com
INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN
IRONHEART
BENDIS
CASELLI
GRACIA
RIRI WILLIAMS
MARVEL

INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN
IRONHEART

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN
IRONHEART

RIRI WILLIAMS

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#1

NOW

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS • STEFANO CASELLI • MARTE GRACIA

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

MARVEL

#1

RIRI WILLIAMS IS IRONHEART

CHICAGO
TEN YEARS AGO.
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH HER.
IT'S QUITE THE OPPOSITE, ACTUALLY.
QUITE THE OPPOSITE.
THESE BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS THAT HAVE FLARED UP ARE DUE TO THE FACT THAT...SHE'S BORED.
BORED?
SHE'S FIVE YEARS OLD.
SHE HAS TOYS. SHE HAS TV. WHEN I WAS A KID...
YOUR DAUGHTER HAS TESTED AT THE LEVEL--WHAT THEY NOW REFER TO AS SUPER GENIUS.
THERE WAS GENIUS AND NOW THERE IS ALSO SUPER GENIUS.
I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE TO BE A SUPER GENIUS TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THAT MEANS.
SHE'S BORED BECAUSE SHE'S SMARTER THAN YOU, SMARTER THAN ME...
...AND YOU ARE GIVING HER SESAME STREET, DOLLIES AND APPLE JUICE IN A CARDBOARD BOX.
SHE IS ACTING UP OUT OF BOREDOM.

I DIDN'T KNOW.
H-HOW WAS I TO KNOW?
YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG, MRS. WILLIAMS.
BUT NOW THAT WE DO KNOW, WE NEED TO LOOK INTO SPECIAL CARE.
OF COURSE!
AND I'LL BE ABLE TO HELP YOU NAVIGATE SOME OF THESE THINGS.
BUT IF I MAY OFFER SOME ADVICE...
I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE.
WE'LL MAKE SURE SHE IS GETTING WHAT SHE NEEDS INTELLECTUALLY, THAT'S THE EASY PART.
BUT YOUR PRIMARY CONCERN, AS HER PARENTS, SHOULD BE TO MAKE SURE SHE'S GETTING ENOUGH FROM YOU.
PEOPLE OF HER INTELLECT SOMETIMES FIND THEMSELVES GETTING BORED WITH THE WORLD AROUND THEM, CONFUSED BY IT, FRUSTRATED WITH IT...
...AND THEY RETREAT INSIDE THEIR OWN MIND.
AND THEN THE--THE ABILITY TO INTERACT STARTS TO SLIP...
AS WE FILL HER MIND, IT'S UP TO YOU TO--NOT TO SOUND TOO POETIC--IT IS UP TO YOU TO FILL HER HEART...AND SOUL.
YOU NEED TO SHOW HER THE BEAUTY OF THIS WORLD.
REMIND HER TO EXPERIENCE LIFE.
YOU WANT TO LOOK HER IN THE EYE EVERY DAY AND SAY...

I LOVE THIS WORLD!

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

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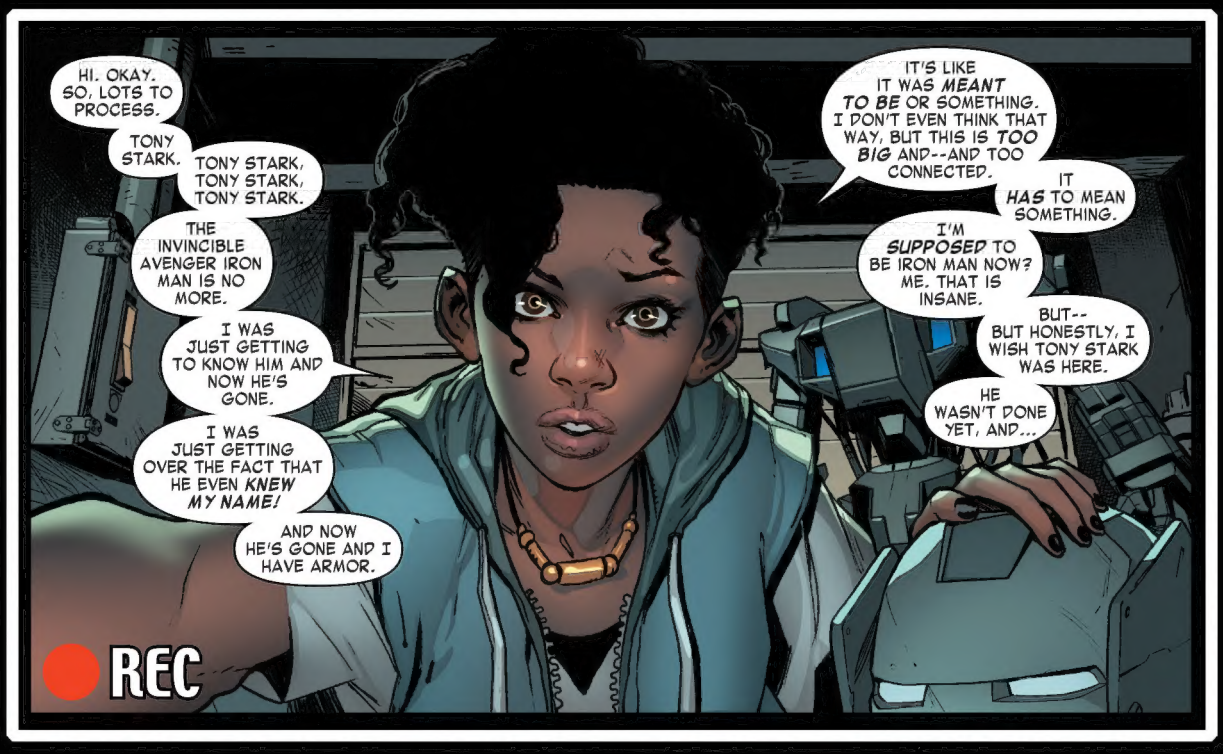
HI. OKAY. SO, LOTS TO PROCESS.
TONY STARK.
TONY STARK, TONY STARK, TONY STARK.
THE INVINCIBLE AVENGER IRON MAN IS NO MORE.
I WAS JUST GETTING TO KNOW HIM AND NOW HE'S GONE.
I WAS JUST GETTING OVER THE FACT THAT HE EVEN KNEW MY NAME!
AND NOW HE'S GONE AND I HAVE ARMOR.
REC
IT'S LIKE IT WAS MEANT TO BE OR SOMETHING. I DON'T EVEN THINK THAT WAY, BUT THIS IS TOO BIG AND--AND TOO CONNECTED.
IT HAS TO MEAN SOMETHING.
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE IRON MAN NOW? ME. THAT IS INSANE.
BUT-- BUT HONESTLY, I WISH TONY STARK WAS HERE.
HE WASN'T DONE YET, AND...

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"...AND I HAVE NO IDEA IF I'M EVEN CLOSE TO READY."
I AM NOT READY FOR THIS.
CHEYENNE, WYOMING.
WHATEVER THIS IS.
OH, GOD!
I THOUGHT THIS @#$@$@# ONLY HAPPENS IN NEW YORK!
RUUAAARRGHH!
HO-LEE--
ZAZOOO
OKAY, OKAY, OKAY...
HOOF.
ZERO-POINT ENERGY.
A LITTLE EARLY 2000s, BUT WHATEVER...
...MONSTER CAUGHT.
A MONSTER!
THAT'S A LITTLE SOMETHING YOU DON'T SEE EVERY...

AND YOU THOUGHT I'D JUST SIT THERE AND LET YOU?!

WHO'S THE CRAZY ONE?

I AM ANIMAX!

AND NOW YOU WENT AND PISSED ME OFF.

YOU HYPOCRITES WERE GOING TO PUT ME IN THE LOONY BIN!

SO SAY GOODBYE TO THIS CRAPHOLE YOU LIVE IN...

...BECAUSE I'M TEARING IT ALL DOWN ON MY WAY OUT OF HERE!

COMPUTER, SHOW ME EVERYTHING ON ANIMAX.
BUT I KIND OF THINK--
--I GET THE GIST--
OOOF!
SEARCHING...
OKAY, I HAVE TO GET A REAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.
EVEN MY SUPER-FAST HOMEGROWN COMPUTER SYSTEM IS NOT GOING TO CUT IT IN THE HEAT OF WHATEVER THIS--
SMACCKK
UGH!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU NOW?
WHY IS THERE AN ARMORED SUPER-PERSON IN THE MIDDLE OF WYOMING?
THE ONLY REASON TO LIVE OUT HERE IN THIS NIGHTMARE IS THAT YOU HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF NOT RUNNING INTO ONE OF YOU GLORY HOUNDS-- UGH! YOU KNOW WHAT?
I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE OR WHY YOU'RE IN MY WAY...
JUST DIE!

CHICAGO
FIVE YEARS AGO.
RIRI?
RIRI, HAVE YOU EATEN LUNCH?
RIRI!
HMM?
WHAT?
HAVE YOU EATEN?
IS BREAKFAST OVER?
LUNCH IS OVER.
OH.
PUT THE TOYS AWAY AND GO OUTSIDE AND PLAY.
I'M WORKING.
YOU'VE WORKED ENOUGH.
IS IT TIME TO EAT OR TIME TO GO TO THE PARK?
YOU'RE TEN YEARS OLD. GO TO THE PARK.
RIRI.
JUST--JUST LET ME FINISH THIS UP AND THEN I'LL--I'LL EAT AND FROLIC AND DO WHATEVER...
FIVE MINUTES.
FIVE MINUTES.

CAN I HELP YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
A PROJECT.
WHAT IS IT?
I'M NOT TOTALLY SURE YET.
CAN I SEE IT?
UH, IF YOU WANT.
WHAT DOES IT DO?
IS IT A ROBOT?
WELL, IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN.

KIND OF.
LIKE, OKAY, WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE SUPER HERO?
SPIDER-MAN.
REALLY?
TOTALLY.
I DON'T LIKE SPIDERS, BUT WHATEVER...
LET'S SAY SPIDER-MAN WAS CAPTURED.
LIKE, I DON'T KNOW, DOCTOR DOOM CAPTURED HIM AND HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GET HOME IN TIME TO DO WHATEVER HE DOES WHEN HE'S NOT SPIDER-MAN.
THE IDEA HERE IS HE PUSHES A BUTTON ON, LIKE, HIS WATCH AND IT UNLEASHES THIS PRE-PROGRAMMED BOT AND IT COVERS FOR HIM.
IT E-MAILS HIS BOSS SAYING HE'S SICK, IT FEEDS HIS CAT, IT GETS A MESSAGE TO THE OTHER HEROES.
THAT'S COOL.
BUT IT NEEDS TO BE SMALLER.
IT NEEDS TO BE A TINY BUTTON ON A WATCH OR--OR A BELT BUCKLE.
I WANTED IT TO BE A TECH-TATTOO ON THE SURFACE OF THE SKIN, BUT--UGH--I'M NOT THERE YET.
YOU KNOW, IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE JUST SUPER HEROES. ANYONE IN THE WORLD WOULD WANT THIS.
"I MISSED MY FLIGHT." "I DON'T WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL..."
YEAH, YOU KNOW, YOU'RE RIGHT.
I MEAN, ANYONE COULD USE IT.
YOU JUST NEED A NAME.
MY NAME IS RIRI.
NO. I MEANT THE THING YOU'RE BUILDING NEEDS A NAME.
I'M NATALIE.
YEAH, I'M TERRIBLE AT NAMING THINGS.

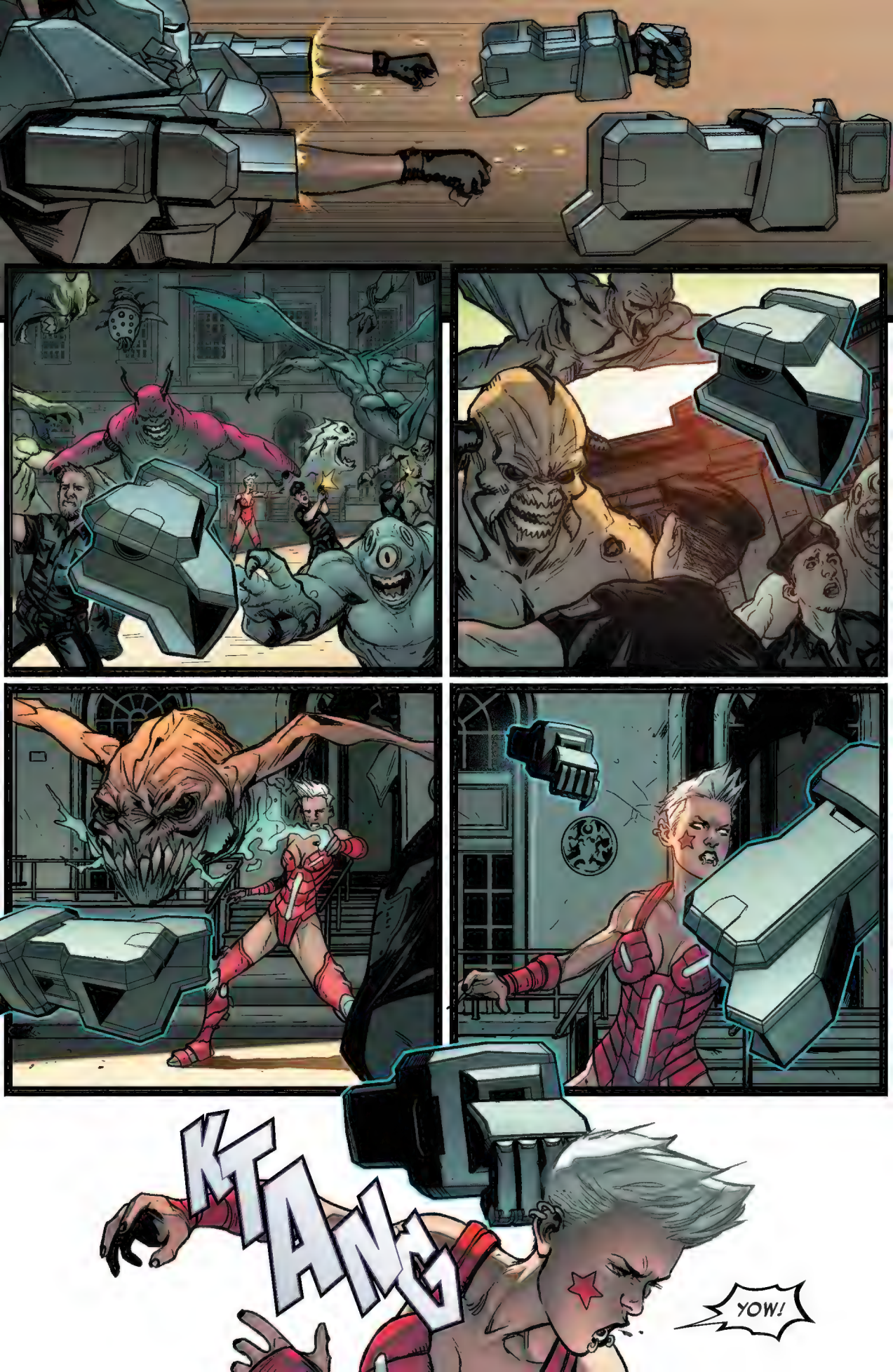
OW!
ANIMAX IS A CRIMINAL WITH A SHORT BUT ACTIVE POLICE RECORD.
SHE IS LEGALLY LABELED HOMO SUPERIOR. MUTANT.
A MUTANT? WELL, THAT EXPLAINS THE SUDDEN OUT-OF-NOWHERE BURSTS OF, UM, CREATURES?
HER MUTANT POWER ALLOWS HER TO CREATE GENETIC MONSTERS OUT OF HER OWN DNA EXTRACT--
WELL, I CAN SEE THAT!
SHE WAS RECENTLY IMPRISONED FOR TRYING TO ROB AN AIRPORT ON SEPTEMBER 10TH.
SHE WAS STOPPED BY THE CHAMPIONS.
CAN'T I GET ONE PAY OFF FROM THESE $@&%@$@@ SUPER HEROES?!
HEY, I CAN HEAR YOU!
EVASIVE ACTION REQUIRED.
WHY? I CAN SEE THE--
UH-OH.

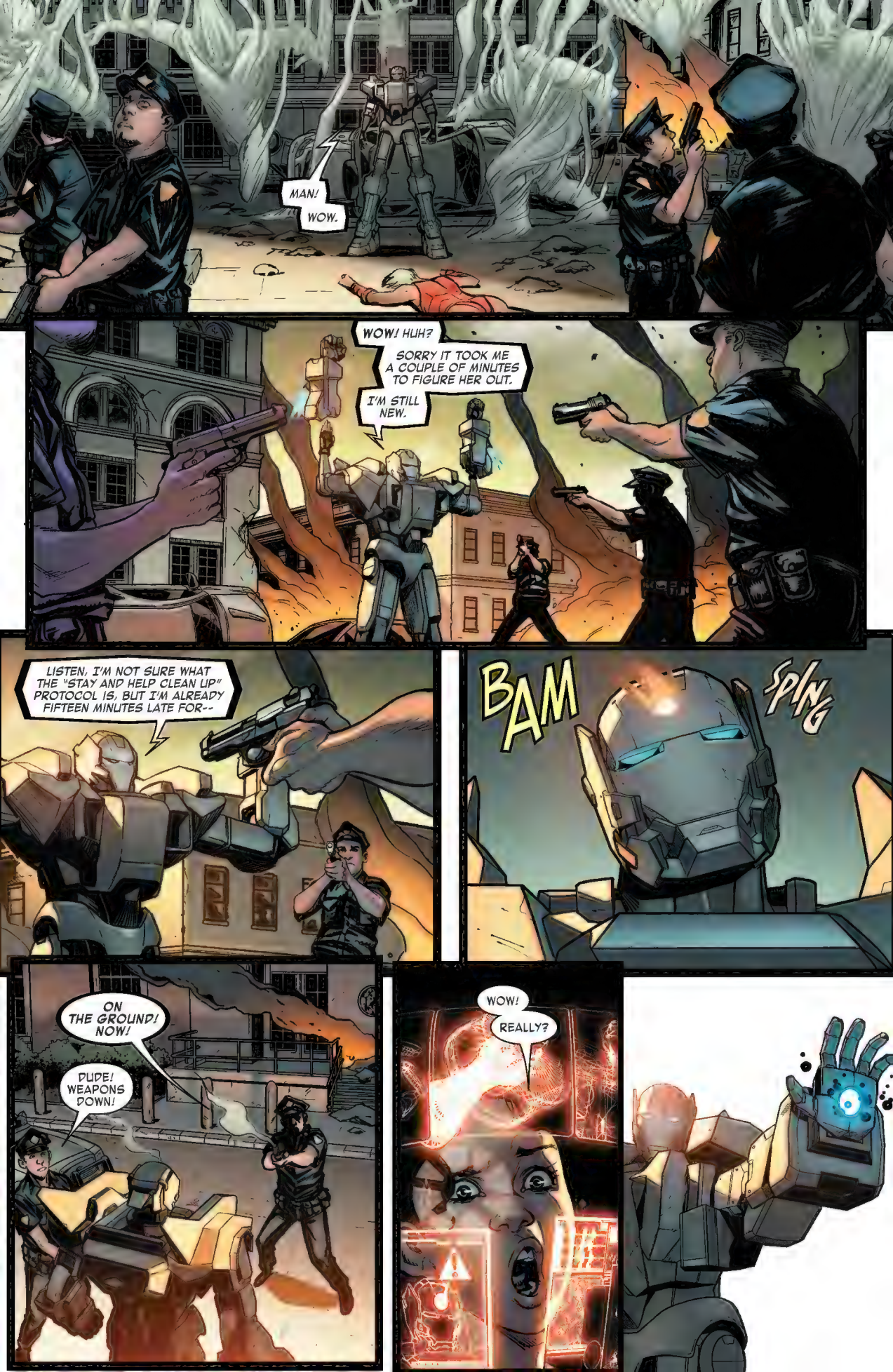
MARQUETTE PARK.
TWO YEARS AGO.
RIRI, PUT THE SCREEN DOWN AND YOU TWO SET THE TABLE.
HOLD ON TO WHAT?
HOLD ON.
YES, MA'AM.
THAT'S BETTER.
DID YOU EVEN SAY HI TO HIM, NAT?
I'M WORKING ON IT.
RI!
YEAH, POPS?
IT'S A NICE DAY.
TOLD YOU HE WAS GOING TO SAY THAT.
IT IS!
WHEN I WAS A BABY, A DOCTOR TOLD HIM TO TELL ME THAT EVERY DAY.
BUT HE SAYS IT EVEN IF THERE IS SNOW, WIND...
BUT IT *IS* A NICE DAY.
I KNOW, POPS.
GOOD.
IT'S *MY* JOB TO MAKE SURE YOU KNOW THAT.

IT'S SWEET.
IT'S ANNOYING.
IT'S WHAT DADS DO.
STEPDAD.
WANT TO TRADE MY NO DAD FOR YOUR CARING STEPDAD?
HE'S SCARED OF ME.
NO, HE'S NOT.
I HEARD HIM TELL MY MOM.
HE THINKS IF THEY DON'T SAY NICE THINGS TO ME EVERY FIFTEEN MINUTES, I'M GOING TO TURN INTO DOCTOR DOOM OR SOMETHING.
TELLING ME IT'S A NICE DAY WHEN IT'S RAINING IS JUST WEIRD.
HOW IS THAT SUPPOSED TO KEEP ME--?
POP POP
POP POP
GIRLS!

NOO!
OH, NO.
NONONO...
WHY?
WWHHYYYYY?!

I SHOULD HAVE SHUT THIS DOWN BY NOW.
ANIMAX FIRST APPEARED IN TEMPE, ARIZO--
SHUT UP!
COME ON!
STARK WOULD HAVE HAD THIS WRAPPED UP AND BEEN HOME ALREADY.
YOUTUBE FOOTAGE OF ANIMAX'S FIGHT WITH THE X-MEN IS AVAILABLE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IT?
UH, YEAH, I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO ASK.
I SAID SHOW ME EVERYTHING.
POINK
POINK
POINK
POINK
I DID IT!
WE HELPED!
WELL, DUH...
...KNOCK OUT THE MONSTER MAKER...THE MONSTERS GO BYE BYE.
AND I'LL BE KICKING MYSELF FOR NOT FIGURING THAT OUT ON MY OWN FOR THE REST OF MY DAYS.
I CANNOT WAIT FOR THIS ENTIRE SOCIETY TO CRUMBLE UNDER YOU COWARDS!
OKAY, LET'S TRY THIS UNTESTED BIT OF BUSINESS...


KTANG
YOW!


MAN!
WOW.
WOW! HUH?
SORRY IT TOOK ME A COUPLE OF MINUTES TO FIGURE HER OUT.
I'M STILL NEW.
LISTEN, I'M NOT SURE WHAT THE "STAY AND HELP CLEAN UP" PROTOCOL IS, BUT I'M ALREADY FIFTEEN MINUTES LATE FOR--
BAM
SPING
ON THE GROUND! NOW!
DUDE! WEAPONS DOWN!
WOW!
REALLY?

GEEZ!
TANG
RUUNNCHH

CHICAGO.
RIRI?
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE HOME.
WHAT?
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE HOME!
SO, HOW WAS YOUR DAY OF SUPER HEROING?
NOT GREAT.
WELL, YOU CAME BACK IN ONE PIECE.
BARELY.
DON'T TELL ME THINGS LIKE THAT.
I HAVE NO A.I.!
A SUIT-- A MACHINE OF THIS LEVEL OF INTEGRATION NEEDS AN A.I.
I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY OR EQUIPMENT OR--OR-- OR--
EXCUSE ME, ARE YOU RIRI WILLIAMS?
I'M HER MOTHER.
THIS IS FOR HER.
WHAT IS IT?
WHO IS IT FROM?

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
WE SHOULD CALL THE POLICE.
HMMM.
IN A SECOND.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
PUSHING THE BUTTON.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS!
YEAH, THAT'S WHY I WANT TO PUSH THE BUTTON.
WHAT IF IT'S A BOMB?
PUSH ME!
HAND-DELIVERED BY A COURIER SERVICE?
PUSH
YES!
I-- I DON'T GET IT.
YES YES YES!
WHAT IS IT?

SO, HI. I'M TONY STARK.
WELL, HIS ESSENCE.
IN ESSENCE.
I DOWNLOADED MY FABULOUS SELF INTO A DIGITAL FRAME IN CASE MY BODY WAS EVER...YOU KNOW, NOT WORKING ANYMORE.
SO, THIS IS ME AS AN ADVANCED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CONSTRUCT.
AND SINCE I SEE YOU JUST HAPPEN TO NEED AN ADVANCED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CONSTRUCT TO HELP RUN YOUR FABULOUS NEW SUIT...
...I THINK WE FOUND EACH OTHER AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME.
SO, LET'S GET TO WORK, RIRI!...
...WE HAVE A LOT TO DO.
TO BE CONTINUED...

SOCK IT TO SHELL-HEAD!

Send letters to MHEROES@MARVEL.COM and don't forget to mark them **"OKAY TO PRINT!"**

Hey there, Shell-Heads--welcome to the letters page!

For those of you who are new around here, this is the part of the comic where I--the overworked, underpaid and usually slightly loopy assistant editor, Alanna Smith--answer your queries, complaints, concerns and compliments. For those of you who aren't new here and thought you would finally be rid of me after INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #14, the joke's on you! You'll never be free of me!

Anyway, here's the deal: you can email us at MHEROES@MARVEL.COM to let us know what you thought of Riri's first issue, and I'll do my best to respond here! Just be sure to mark your letters "Okay to Print" if you'd like to see them printed. Otherwise I will be forced to slowly drag them to my email's trash bin as my tears splash softy against my keyboard.

But that's enough about my tears! Enough, I say! Between the end of the previous INVINCIBLE IRON MAN run and the launch of this run, we got a few very nice letters that I am deigning to answer here. Let's get this show on the road!

Dear Spectacular Shell-Heads:

This is one of the things I've always wanted to see out of super hero comics. Granted I always expected that it would be the Distinguished Competition that delivered on this kind of story since they were always the "legacy hero" company, but despite creating a horde of delightful sidekicks, heirs and successors, they've never really had the guts to actually replace any of their heroes with those who are destined to inherit the cape (not since Hal and Barry took over for Alan and Jay, anyway, and that was a very different sort of thing).

But the idea that super heroes would inspire (or infuriate) others to pick up the mask is a big part of super hero comics and always has been. Training the new kids is another longstanding big part of it, whether they were sidekicks or teammates or rivals. But aside from a few notable--often temporary--exceptions, we hardly ever get to see someone step into the shoes of their mentor, not for real and not for long. But here you really seem to be setting up The Next Heroes in IRON MAN. Having Tony interact with both Doom and Riri is the perfect way to bring the story along to where you can pass it off to their hands and have it mean something. And that's what I've always wanted to see: the progression of heroes as the first generation inspires the second and the cape gets passed.

Because super heroes should change the world, and that means that things in the books have to change eventually too. Otherwise it all stagnates and we get the same stories over and over and over. Do I think we should suddenly replace all our heroes with new ones? Of course not! But every now and then, yes, I would like to see someone step down or move on or retire or even die, and someone else to take up the role they left behind. I want that to mean something. I want to see the next generation of heroes grow and shine and step out of the shadows of the ones who came before rather than being constantly relegated to "teen sidekick" status, long past the time where it makes sense to keep them mired in that role.

Do I think we're really going to see the last of Tony Stark in the armor when this series of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN ends? Not a chance. It's not like this will be the first time someone else has taken up the armor (so all the whiners can take a chill pill, sheesh) and even back when Rhodey first stepped into the role, it felt like a temporary thing. But it would be great if we could have a nice long time with our new Shell-Heads (the good and the bad) to explore what the legacy of Tony Stark is (the good and the bad).

I hope nobody gets cold feet and shuts these kids down too early, or shoves them aside so the old guard can take over again. I don't think it diminishes one thing about the original heroes to have them pass off the cape from time to time; rather, I think it cements the importance of their position while letting the universe as a whole evolve. It also gives a character a chance to actually develop instead of being constantly returned to a "safe" status quo at the end of every arc. And I've wanted this kind of story for a long time. Good on Marvel for letting their universe grow and change and giving us the brave new world we've so long been promised by our heroes!

Nicky Wagman
Comix Connection

Receiving this letter from you was an absolute joy, Nicky! I couldn't have worded our hopes for Riri and the other legacy characters better myself. Part of the reason our writers like making moves like this is that it allows us to tell stories we haven't seen before, and it injects new life into characters who have been around for decades. And often the gravity of the original characters will pull things back to them eventually, but even if Tony takes up the mantle again, he'll be taking up a mantle that was reshaped by whoever came before him. In short, it's a blast for us and we're glad you're along for the ride!

Hi Alanna,

What's with another #1 issue? One doesn't appear to be enough for Tony Stark, he has to have 3 or 4! What's next? INVIDIOUS IRON MAN?

Brian's response in INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #14 to the question of how does a white man write ethnic or female characters was really well reasoned and eloquently explained. There's some shocking antisemitism in Europe and particularly the UK at the moment; the bigots use the actions of Israel to justify their racism. It is very disappointing and the number of Jews in the UK has fallen from 400,000 to 260,000 in recent years. I wish I had a fraction of Brian's eloquence to explain what it means to see this appalling, irrational hatred raise its ugly head yet again.

Keep cheering me up with quality comics.

Cheers,
Bruce Marsh

Hey Bruce! We did consider making Riri's takeover INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #15 rather than #1, but the story Brian wanted to tell just felt too big to tack onto the end of a run. And we wanted to launch Riri into the Marvel Universe with fanfare and fireworks worthy of the awesome super hero she is.

Anyone interested in reading Brian's response can pick up INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #14, or check it out on Brian's Tumblr. Sorry to hear things are looking rough on the other side of the pond, Bruce.

This volume of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN, is ending already? That's really too bad, I was just waiting for the Bendis-Marquez team to return. And while I believe that legacy characters can be a good thing, having Riri Williams and Victor Von Doom take up separate Iron-mantles seems like an odd choice. Still, I trust Marvel and all of the writers and artists involved to keep making enjoyable comics that remain true to the characters.

This doesn't mean I haven't been enjoying the recent IRON MAN issues; I like them a lot. The "War Machines" arc was well-made, Deodato's art is attractive and Bendis's dialogue is witty and fun to read. I also love seeing the recurring cast of Mary Jane and Friday, who together act as the perfect foil to Tony Stark. It's been a good run, and I'm interested to see how "Ironheart" is presented in the INVINCIBLE IRON MAN relaunch.

Keep up the good work,
Josh Lamb

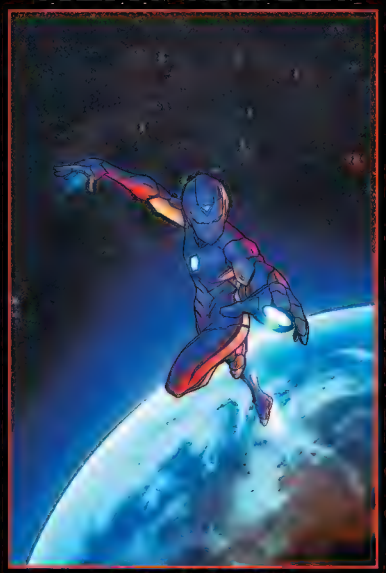
Hey there, Josh--hope you followed us into the new run of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN! Riri's transformation into Ironheart is a story that we've all been really looking forward to telling, and I think it'll be worth the wait.

That's all for this time! We hope you enjoyed Riri's first solo outing! We've got big dreams for this cool little lady, and if you love her half as much as we do, we're doing okay.

Until next time, Shell-Heads!

-The Invincible Alanna Smith

NEXT ISSUE:



CRASH COURSE!

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS • STEFANO CASELLI • MARTE GRACIA

MARVEL

#2

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS WRITER

STEFANO CASELLI ARTIST

MARTE GRACIA COLOR ARTIST

VC's CLAYTON COWLES LETTERER

HI. OKAY. HEY, SO...
TONY STARK.
IS ALIVE.
HE'S NOT DEAD. HE'S ALIVE AND--WELL, ACTUALLY, HE DOWNLOADED HIS CONSCIOUSNESS INTO AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE MATRIX AND THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE MATRIX SHOWED UP AT MY HOUSE!
THE TECHNO-GHOST OF TONY STARK IS HAUNTING ME.
HE/IT WANTS TO HELP ME BECOME A SUPER HERO.
DO YOU HEAR WHAT I AM SAYING? THE DUDE DOWNLOADED HIMSELF INTO A PROGRAM SO HE COULD NEVER ACTUALLY REALLY DIE.
THE EGO ON THIS DUDE.
SERIOUSLY.
I SHOULD LOOK INTO THAT. MAYBE I NEED TO DO THAT.
MAN, HOW IS A NOT-TONY-STARK TONY STARK GOING TO TRAIN ME?
REC

STEFANO CASELLI & MARTE GRACIA COVER ARTISTS

MIKE DEODATO, JR. & FRANK MARTIN; ANTHONY PIPER; PASCAL CAMPION VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

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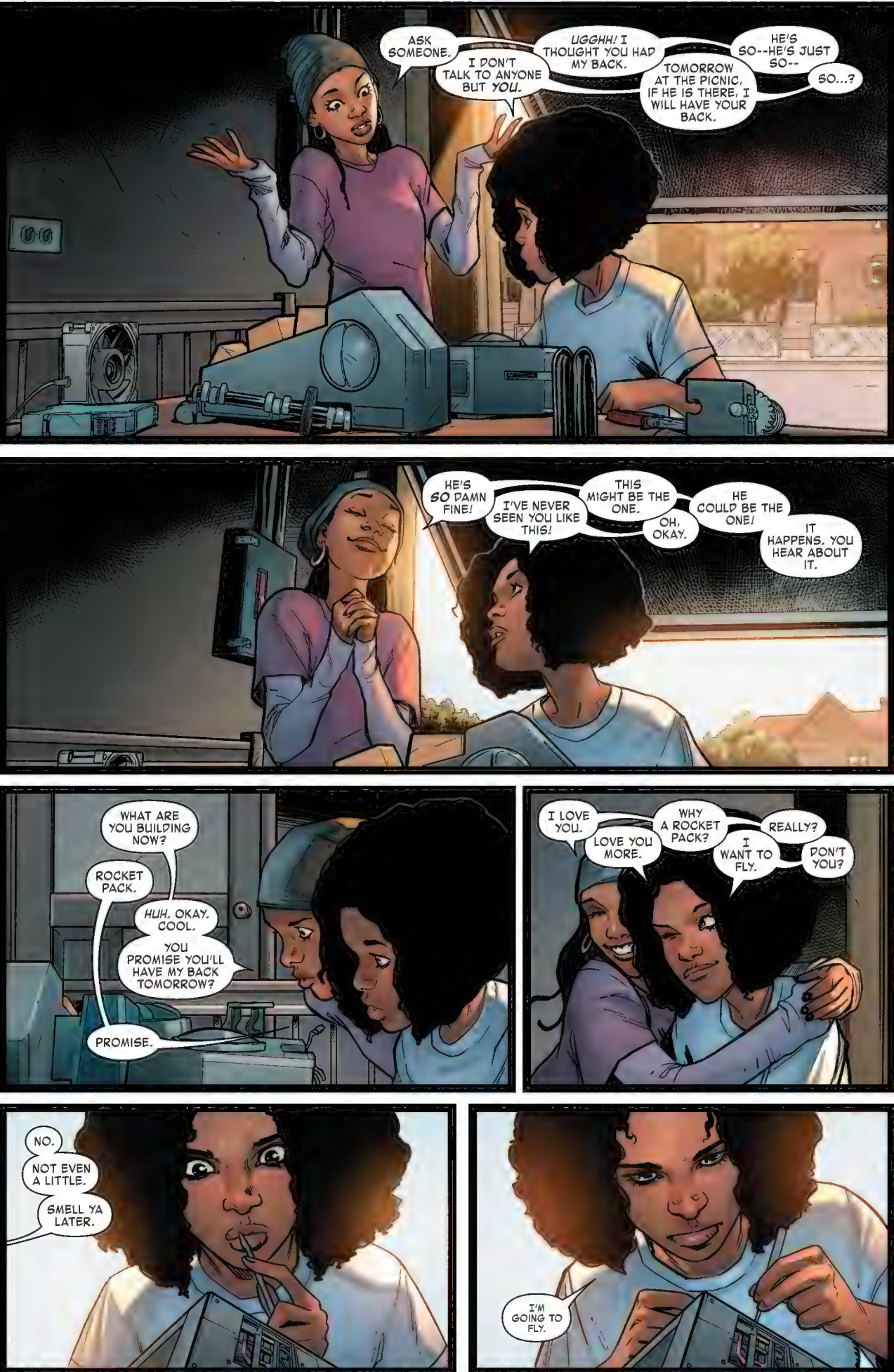
THIS IS HOW YOU'RE GOING TO TRAIN ME?

FSHAMM
I STUDIED THE FOOTAGE OF YOU FROM THE CIVIL WAR AND THE MUTANT ANIMAL SHENANIGANS IN WISCONSIN, RIRI...
YOU ESCAPED THOSE FIGHTS BY THE SEAT OF YOUR PANTS.
LUCK.
LUCK? MORE LIKE--OW!
FSHAMM FSHAMM
AGH! YOU KNOW, THIS IS TECHNICALLY CHILD ABUSE!
NOT TRAINING YOU WOULD BE CHILD ABUSE.
RIGHT!

YOU KNOW, I WON THOSE FIGHTS YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
YES!
DID YOU?
I'M NOT SAYING I DON'T HAVE A LOT TO LEARN, BUT--
FSHAM
FSHAM
FSHAM
FSHAM
KATANG
"THE LITTLE MERMAID?"

CHICAGO.
TWO YEARS AGO.
I'VE NEVER SEEN IT.
THE LITTLE MERMAID!
I'VE NEVER SEEN IT.
THE LITTLE MERMAID.
STOP SAYING "THE LITTLE MERMAID."
YOU'RE SAYING YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT?
YOU ARE A GENIUS, RIRI.
THE MOVIE.
YEAH, I KNOW. THE CARTOON.
IT'S MORE THAN JUST A CARTOON, NAT.
HOW COULD YOU HAVE MISSED IT ALL THESE YEARS?
I HATE CARTOONS.
YOU HATE CARTOONS? WHO HATES CARTOONS?
THEY ANNOY ME.
HOW AM I JUST NOW HEARING THIS?
I LOVE ROMANTIC COMEDIES.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, IS STEVEY COMING TO THE PICNIC?
I HONESTLY HAVE NO IDEA.
CAN YOU FIND OUT?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I DO.
PLEASE!
HOW?


ASK SOMEONE.
I DON'T TALK TO ANYONE BUT YOU.
UGGHH! I THOUGHT YOU HAD MY BACK.
TOMORROW AT THE PICNIC, IF HE IS THERE, I WILL HAVE YOUR BACK.
HE'S SO--HE'S JUST SO--
SO...?
HE'S SO DAMN FINE!
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU LIKE THIS!
THIS MIGHT BE THE ONE.
OH, OKAY.
HE COULD BE THE ONE!
IT HAPPENS. YOU HEAR ABOUT IT.
WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING NOW?
ROCKET PACK.
HUH. OKAY. COOL.
YOU PROMISE YOU'LL HAVE MY BACK TOMORROW?
PROMISE.
I LOVE YOU.
LOVE YOU MORE.
WHY A ROCKET PACK?
I WANT TO FLY.
REALLY?
DON'T YOU?
NO.
NOT EVEN A LITTLE.
SMELL YA LATER.
I'M GOING TO FLY.

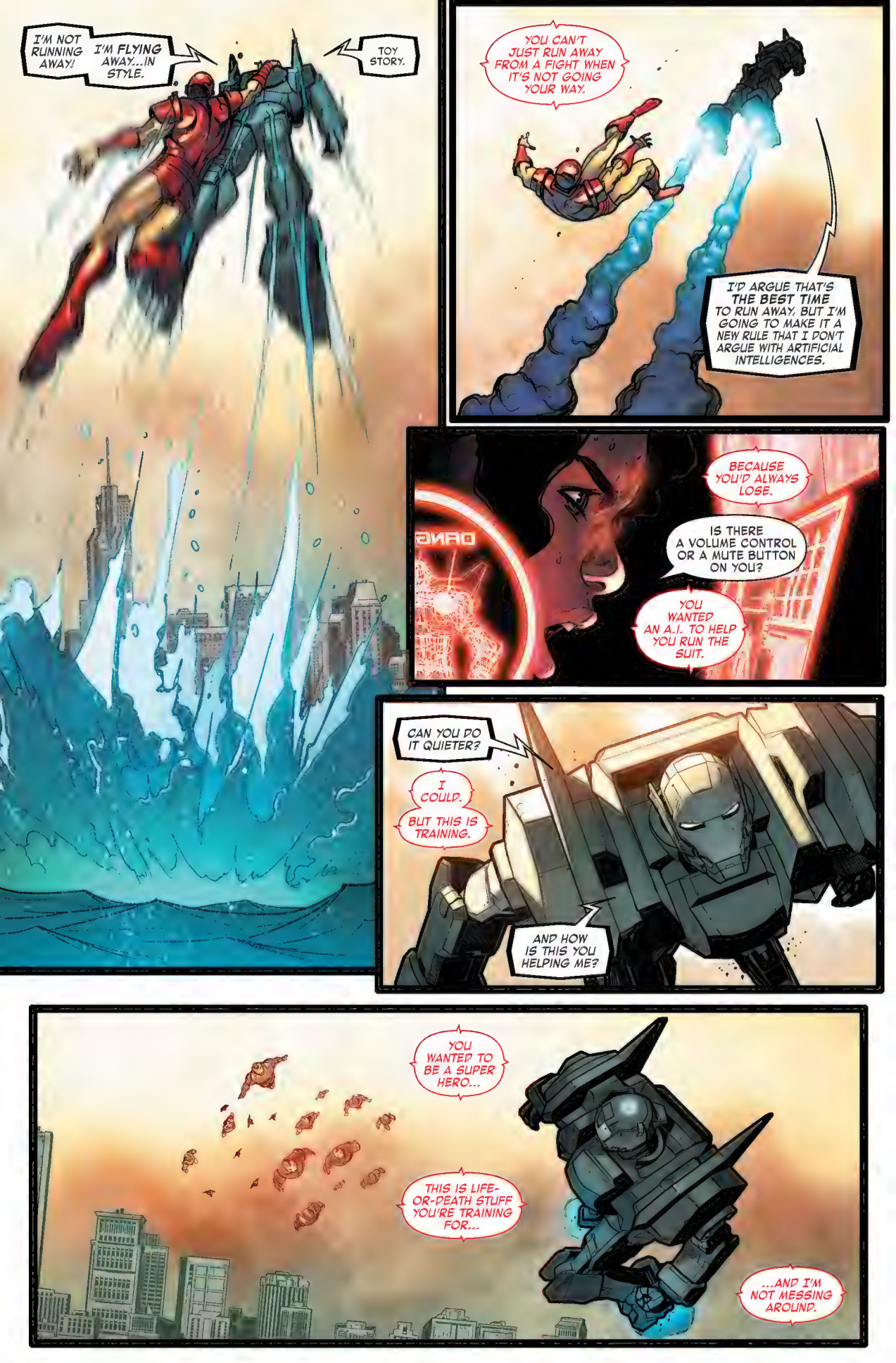
AAAGGIIEEE!
STOP SCREAMING! DON'T LET HIM HEAR YOU SCREAM!
I CAN HEAR YOU TALKING TO YOURSELF.
THAT'S KIND OF/SORT OF MORE EMBARRASSING.
WELL, WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY.
NICE SAVE.
DON'T SUCK UP TO ME NOW.
WATCH OUT BEHIND YOU.
WHAT?

UH-OH.
HOW ARE YOUR SEALS? YOU HAVE TO HAVE YOUR SEALS READY FOR ANYTHING.
THERE'RE BETTER WAYS TO TELL ME!
"THERE'S NO BETTER WAY TO TELL YOU THIS..."

CHICAGO.
TWO YEARS AGO.
MRS. WILLIAMS?
OH, NO...
Stairs
EXIT
YOUR HUSBAND...DIDN'T MAKE IT.
THE BULLET DID JUST TOO MUCH--
NOOOAAAHH!
I'M SO SORRY.
WHHYYY?
THE CLERGYMAN IS ON HIS--
AGAIN! IT HAPPENED *AGAIN!*
WHAT HAPPENED AGAIN?
THIS IS THE-- THIS IS HER SECOND HUSBAND.
THEY BOTH DIED.
BOTH SHOT.
I'M SO SORRY.
THE GIRL.
NATALIE.
I'M SORRY?
THE LITTLE GIRL. MY SIZE. ALSO, SHE--SHE ALSO GOT SHOT.
IS SHE...?
I HAVE TO WAIT FOR HER FAMILY TO ARRIVE.
THAT INFORMATION IS--
HER NAME IS NATALIE.
I'M SORRY... I'M NOT ALLOWED.
HEY!
I TOLD HIM, "I KNOW YOU'RE LYING," AND HE SAID: "YOU THINK ALL MEN ARE LIARS."
THEY ARE.
EXACTLY WHAT I SAID.

NAT?
OH, NO.
NO.
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH.
DON'T DO THIS.
HEY! NO!
YOU CAN'T BE HERE.
DON'T DO THIS!

IS ANYBODY ACTUALLY WORKING SECURITY TONIGHT?
DON'T!
STOP IT! STOP IT!
DON'T TOUCH HER!
YOU HAVE TO WAIT OUTSIDE!
DON'T TOUCH HER!
STOP IT!
"YOU CAN'T JUST RUN AWAY."

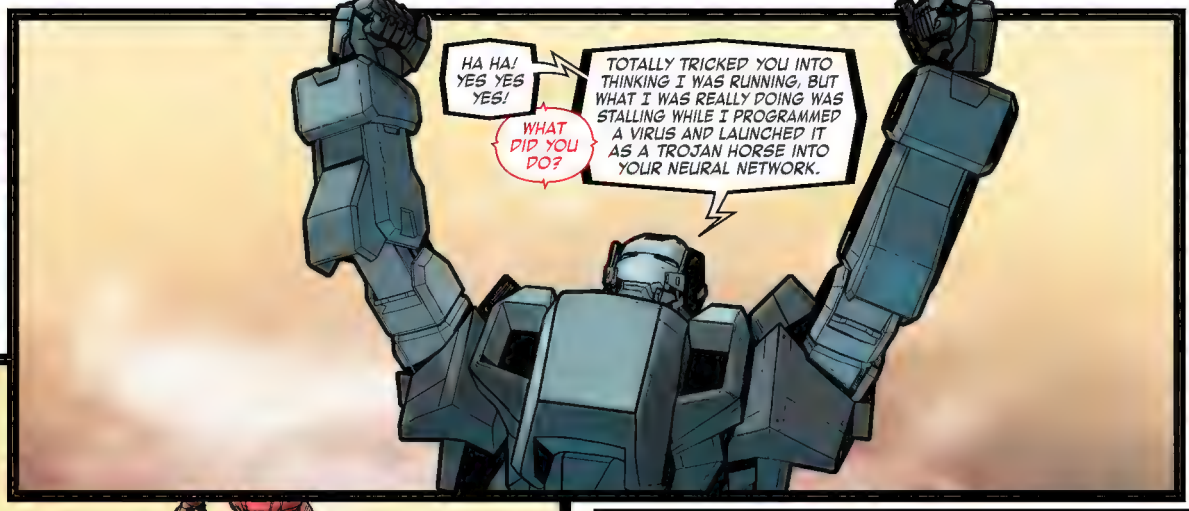

I'M NOT RUNNING AWAY!
I'M FLYING AWAY...IN STYLE.
TOY STORY.
YOU CAN'T JUST RUN AWAY FROM A FIGHT WHEN IT'S NOT GOING YOUR WAY.
I'D ARGUE THAT'S THE BEST TIME TO RUN AWAY, BUT I'M GOING TO MAKE IT A NEW RULE THAT I DON'T ARGUE WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCES.
BECAUSE YOU'D ALWAYS LOSE.
IS THERE A VOLUME CONTROL OR A MUTE BUTTON ON YOU?
YOU WANTED AN A.I. TO HELP YOU RUN THE SUIT.
CAN YOU DO IT QUIETER?
I COULD.
BUT THIS IS TRAINING.
AND HOW IS THIS YOU HELPING ME?
YOU WANTED TO BE A SUPER HERO...
THIS IS LIFE-OR-DEATH STUFF YOU'RE TRAINING FOR...
...AND I'M NOT MESSING AROUND.

BOOM
THE MORE YOU RUN, THE MORE DIFFICULT THE TRAINING PROGRAM WILL GET.
I SWEAR TO THOR, I LIKED YOU MORE WHEN YOU WERE ALIVE.
YOU BARELY KNEW ME THEN.
AND ALSO...
...NO OFFENSE, BUT MY ARMORS MAKE YOUR ARMOR LOOK LIKE IT WAS SLAPPED TOGETHER OUT OF FOAMCORE AND RUBBER CEMENT.
HOW COULD I FIND THAT OFFENSIVE?
I DID.
SO MAYBE TRY TO FIGURE OUT A BATTLE STRATEGY. WORK SOME MATH.
IT SUCKS.
"CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY."

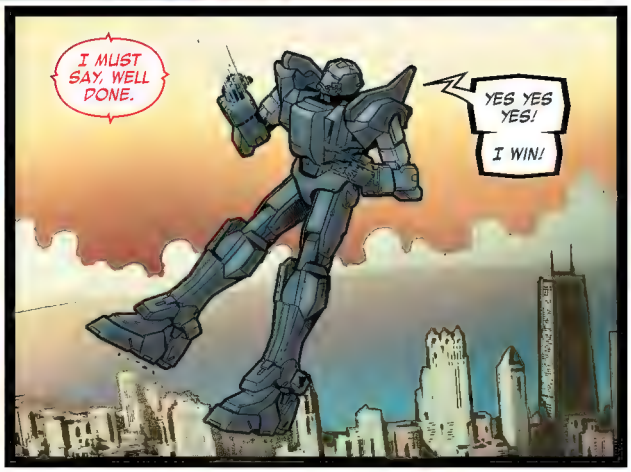
WHEN BULLETS ARE FLYING LIKE THAT... YOU'RE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE.
PLEASE STOP SAYING THINGS LIKE THAT, DETECTIVE.
WELL, YOU CAN'T SEE IT TODAY, BUT YOU'RE ALIVE.
AND YOU CAN HONOR THE MEMORY OF YOUR LATE HUSBAND BY TELLING ME ANYTHING YOU SAW.
THE MAKE OF THE CAR.
IT WAS RED. TOP DOWN.
I--I DIDN'T SEE THE LICENSE PLATE.
IT WAS FAR AWAY.
CONVERTIBLE. GREAT.
BUT I SAW THE BULLETS. I SAW THE GUN.
WHAT I'D LIKE TO DO IS TAKE YOU DOWN TO THE STATION. SHOW YOU SOME MUG SHOTS.
I DIDN'T GET A GOOD LOOK AT ANY OF THEM.
RIRI? IS THAT HOW YOU SAY IT?
HMM?
DID YOU GET A GOOD LOOK AT ANY OF THEM?
I HAVE A QUESTION.
YES?
HOW AM I STILL ALIVE?

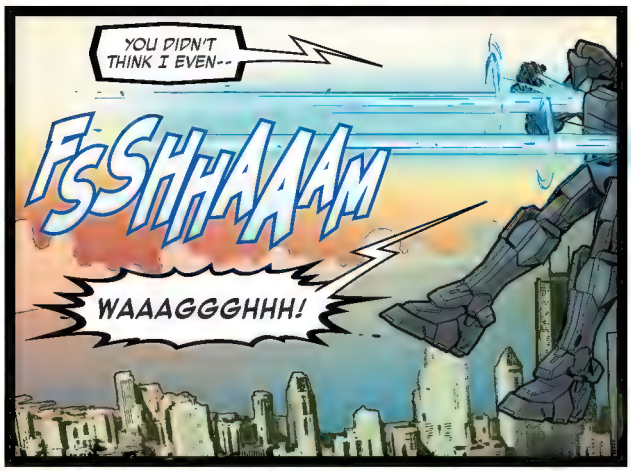
UM--
WHY NATALIE AND NOT ME?
WHY MY STEPDAD AND NOT MY MOM?
IT'S, WELL, IT WAS RANDOM...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
"THIS ISN'T THE ANSWER."

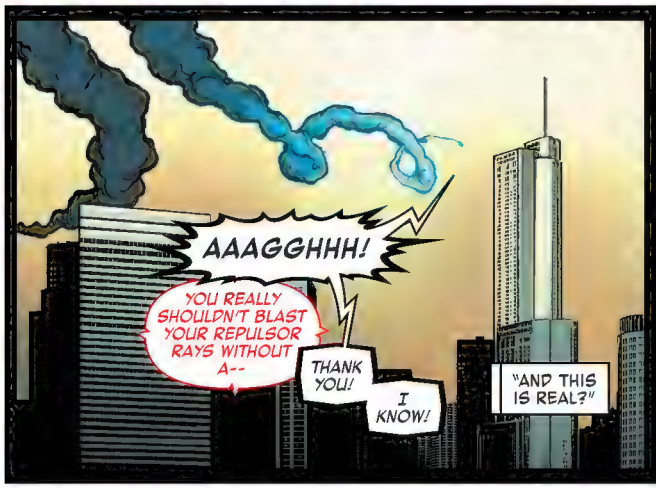
I KNOW.
THEN WHY DO YOU KEEP RUNNING WHEN YOU KNOW I'M GOING TO KEEP CHASING?
BECAUSE THIS.


HA HA! YES YES YES!
WHAT DID YOU DO?
TOTALLY TRICKED YOU INTO THINKING I WAS RUNNING, BUT WHAT I WAS REALLY DOING WAS STALLING WHILE I PROGRAMMED A VIRUS AND LAUNCHED IT AS A TROJAN HORSE INTO YOUR NEURAL NETWORK.

SPLASSH
KERPLOP


I MUST SAY, WELL DONE.
YES YES YES!
I WIN!


YOU DIDN'T THINK I EVEN--
FSSHHAAAM
WAAAGGGHHH!


AAAGGHHH!
YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T BLAST YOUR REPULSOR RAYS WITHOUT A--
THANK YOU!
I KNOW!
"AND THIS IS REAL?"

AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL.
MULTIPLE AMERICANS FILMED THIS ALTERCATION AND POSTED IT ONLINE.
IT HAS "GONE VIRAL," AS THEY SAY OVER THERE.
A NEW IRON MAN.
AND HE TOOK OUT THE OLD ONE. ALL OF THE OLD ONES.
I THOUGHT WE WERE TOLD TONY STARK WAS NO LONGER AMONG THE LIVING.
THAT IS WHAT WE WERE TOLD, TOMOE.
WELL, THEN, IF THAT IS TONY STARK, I WOULD LIKE HIM DESTROYED IMMEDIATELY.
AND IF THIS IS NOT HIM, WHATEVER THAT IS, WHOEVER THAT IS...
...WE NEED TO SHUT THEM DOWN.
BEFORE IT GETS OUT OF HAND AND RUINS EVERYTHING WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO DO HERE.
WE CAN'T TAKE THE CHANCE AGAIN.
THE NEW IRON MAN MUST DIE.
QUICKLY.
DO THAT FOR ME, WILL YOU?
TO BE CONTINUED...

SOCK IT TO SHELL-HEAD!

Send letters to MHEROES@MARVEL.COM and don't forget to mark them **"OKAY TO PRINT!"**

Hey Shell-Heads, this is assistant editor Alanna Smith and I...have still seen no cosplay pics!!! I know you're out there, gorgeous Riri cosplayers--hit a girl with a sweet letters page up! While we're waiting for the cosplayers, let's take a look at your letters!

I love Riri! I love that she is a strong and intelligent African-American female. She will inspire so many. This issue really grabbed my attention and I am so excited to read more and see how Riri grows and evolves. The tragedy that she faced was very moving and there is a real human quality to her. The fact that she is a super genius does not make her feel unreachable. The way this issue was written and created allows the reader to find the similarities between the character and themselves. I am so excited for more!

Thanks,
Eric Potter

Thanks, Eric! I connect with Riri myself because I, too, get so wrapped up in my work that I forget to eat much of anything. I really need to hire an assistant to throw granola bars at me when I start to growl at interns.

Hi Alanna,

Thank you for this amazing, awesome first issue of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN that kicks off Riri's debut as Ironheart with the celebration she deserves! While I understand that some fans aren't happy about the change, I wanted to highlight my experience. I was so excited when it was announced that Riri Williams would take over that I picked up the reprints of the issues of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN that had her in the storyline to start catching up. Aside from having watched the AVENGERS and IRON MAN Marvel movies, I had never read an IRON MAN comic. Now, I'm a fan and I'm hooked.

Switching up stories like these and breathing fresh life into them also pulls in new fans like me who will stick around even if Tony Stark does resume the mantle, so this is a great thing for the franchise! On a personal note, as a Black person it's so awesome to have Riri to identify with--she's very empowering, and given everything going on in the world, she brings a much needed dose of fun. I Look forward to reading more of Riri's adventures!

Jose A. Monzon

Hey, Jose! Thanks for sharing your experience with Riri--I hope we get to tell many more stories with her, and I hope you continue to enjoy the book!

Hey Alanna,

You printed my letters in #14, the last issue of the previous volume and in the first issue of the new re-launch. It's great to have an email in a #1, even if there are a lot of those NOWadays! (see what I did there?) I noticed the printed version was a clever William Burroughs "cut-up" of my two most recent emails, immediately improving the comprehension for other readers, but pointing them to the wrong issue for Brian's eloquent response on writing; it was in issue #13 rather than #14.

Another fine number one with smooth, easy-on-the-eye art by Stefano Caselli and tasteful coloring by Marte Gracia. Brian filling in Riri's tragic history with the senseless park shooting of her friend, Natalie and her stepdad as well as the innocents caught in the crossfire. I loved the appearance of the A.I. Tony Stark as a splash page cliffhanger, but I'm a bit confused. Something's happened to Tony that I'm not aware of. Could this be due to CIVIL WAR II running late? Some titles are dealing with the aftermath of CWII but we're still waiting for issues #7 & #8 so there are a few blanks to fill in.

'Nuff said,
Bruce Marsh

You caught me, Bruce! I tend to run out of space on the letters pages, so sometimes letters get smushed together. Hopefully you were not too distressed! And you are correct, Tony's fate will be revealed in CIVIL WAR II #8. We're working hard on it even as I type this!

Dear Invincible Alanna,

I want to apologize for my poor English, it is not my first language. I have read INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #1. Thank you for bringing me such an interesting issue and this new character.

In my opinion, a man who chooses to be a hero should always have a reason or a deeper consideration than normal people, or they are only a man who has super powers, so I am curious about Riri's reason. I knew some of Tony's reason: he chose to become Iron Man after he built armor and escaped from terrorist with the help and sacrifice of Yinsen. He wanted to change himself and this world, to make this world better, as a futurist.

In INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #1, I saw both Riri and her parents are confused about what they can do. Riri said her father telling her every day is fine, like she would be Doctor Doom if there was something wrong. I think he just wanted to tell his daughter she would find her own way one day, and that before that day, she can also enjoy her life. I am sorry to see that tragedy happened after that. I am reading INFAMOUS IRON MAN in the meantime, so I think maybe I can see what the real meaning is of "it depends on who is in the armor."

Riri is a talented, open-minded and interesting kid. Honestly, I am very sad to realize that Tony cannot give his mother a hug now. But the byte-type Tony is very interesting. Can't wait to see the next issue. (and I miss Friday...) Thanks again, the art is excellent. Keep up the good work!

Liu

Thanks for writing in, Liu! Sorry that English is such a weird language. Brian's doing a lot of interesting things with Riri's decision to be a hero--specifically, an armored hero like Tony. I think you'll enjoy seeing that question answered over the course of the series! (And keep an eye out for Friday--she's not gone by a long shot!)

Hats off to Bendis, Caselli and Gracia. I know there's been a lot of hype surrounding the surfacing of Riri Williams, but wow, did this team nail it. Love the Ironheart name, the artwork is incredible and Riri's back story is incredibly compelling, We're only on issue #1 and I've already been drawn into her Marvel Universe Super Hero Struggle (MUSHS?). She makes me wish I had her when I was in junior high and high school to inspire me to apply myself more. Not to mention college and beyond. I suppose we all could probably use a bit more Riri in our lives. Inspiration to be better. Because we're "not there yet" and "it's a nice day."

Dan Zimney

Glad you're enjoying the book, Dan! My Marvel Universe Super Hero Struggle is that I have not yet found a way to make Quicksilver 1) real, and 2) married to me. I tried to pitch that plotline to Brian and he just stared at me while slowly pulling the limbs off of my Quicksilver Minifig and eating them.

But now I have said too much. Forget what you heard here--aren't iron suits of armor just the coolest? Golly gee, do I wish I had one. Keep sending your letters and I'll keep answering them with my usual mix of poise and professionalism. Until next time!

NEXT ISSUE:

NEW FRIENDS, OLD ENEMIES

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS • STEFANO CASELLI • MARTE GRACIA
INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN
MARVEL
#3

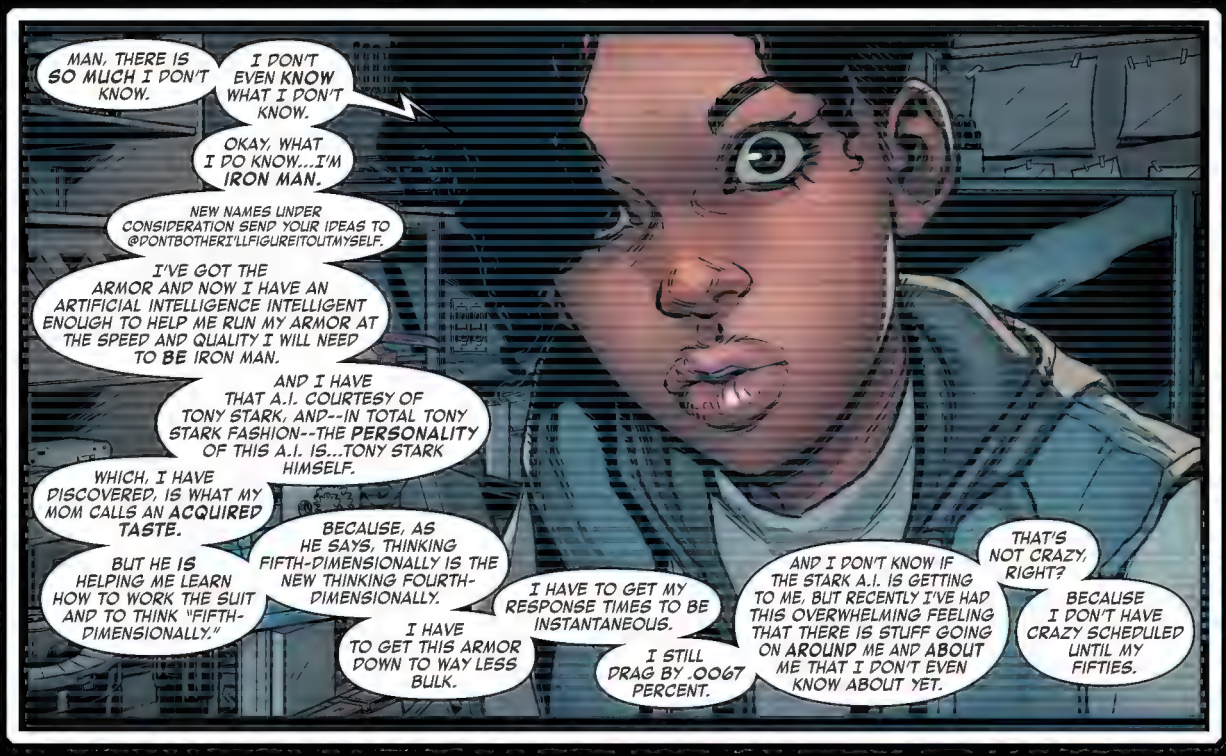
INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS
WRITER

STEFANO CASELLI
ARTIST

MARTE GRACIA
COLOR ARTIST

VC's CLAYTON COWLES
LETTERER


MAN, THERE IS SO MUCH I DON'T KNOW.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT I DON'T KNOW.
OKAY, WHAT I DO KNOW...I'M IRON MAN.
NEW NAMES UNDER CONSIDERATION SEND YOUR IDEAS TO @DONTBOTHERI'LLFIGUREITOUTMYSELF.
I'VE GOT THE ARMOR AND NOW I HAVE AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INTELLIGENT ENOUGH TO HELP ME RUN MY ARMOR AT THE SPEED AND QUALITY I WILL NEED TO BE IRON MAN.
AND I HAVE THAT A.I. COURTESY OF TONY STARK, AND--IN TOTAL TONY STARK FASHION--THE PERSONALITY OF THIS A.I. IS...TONY STARK HIMSELF.
WHICH, I HAVE DISCOVERED, IS WHAT MY MOM CALLS AN ACQUIRED TASTE.
BECAUSE, AS HE SAYS, THINKING FIFTH-DIMENSIONALLY IS THE NEW THINKING FOURTH-DIMENSIONALLY.
BUT HE IS HELPING ME LEARN HOW TO WORK THE SUIT AND TO THINK "FIFTH-DIMENSIONALLY."
I HAVE TO GET THIS ARMOR DOWN TO WAY LESS BULK.
I HAVE TO GET MY RESPONSE TIMES TO BE INSTANTANEOUS.
I STILL DRAG BY .0067 PERCENT.
AND I DON'T KNOW IF THE STARK A.I. IS GETTING TO ME, BUT RECENTLY I'VE HAD THIS OVERWHELMING FEELING THAT THERE IS STUFF GOING ON AROUND ME AND ABOUT ME THAT I DON'T EVEN KNOW ABOUT YET.
THAT'S NOT CRAZY, RIGHT?
BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE CRAZY SCHEDULED UNTIL MY FIFTIES.

STEFANO CASELLI & MARTE GRACIA COVER ARTISTS

KRIS ANKA VARIANT COVER ARTIST

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AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
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IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK AND JACK KIRBY

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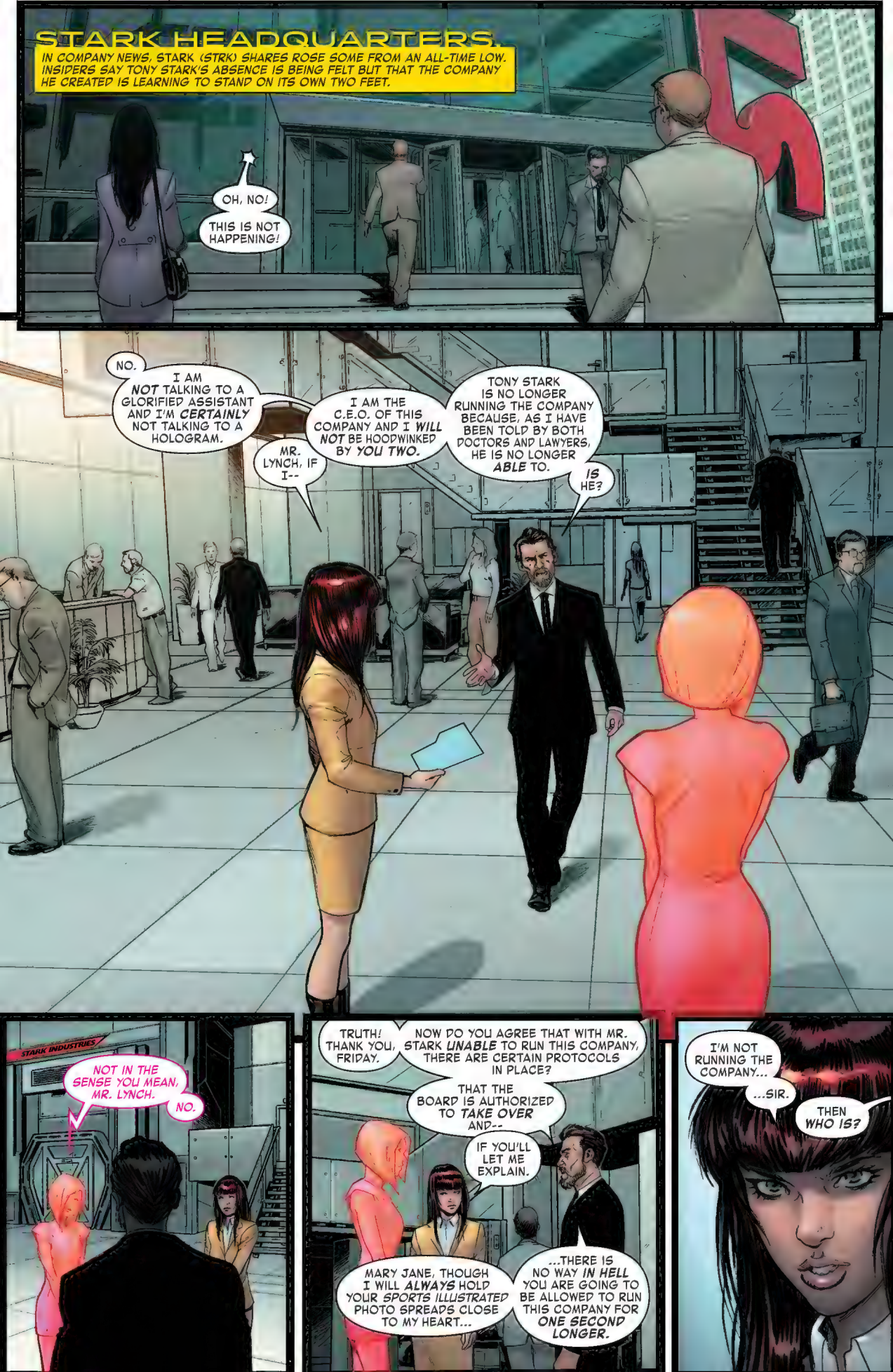

STARK HEADQUARTERS.
IN COMPANY NEWS, STARK (STRK) SHARES ROSE SOME FROM AN ALL-TIME LOW. INSIDERS SAY TONY STARK'S ABSENCE IS BEING FELT BUT THAT THE COMPANY HE CREATED IS LEARNING TO STAND ON ITS OWN TWO FEET.
OH, NO!
THIS IS NOT HAPPENING!
NO.
I AM NOT TALKING TO A GLORIFIED ASSISTANT AND I'M CERTAINLY NOT TALKING TO A HOLOGRAM.
MR. LYNCH, IF I--
I AM THE C.E.O. OF THIS COMPANY AND I WILL NOT BE HOODWINKED BY YOU TWO.
TONY STARK IS NO LONGER RUNNING THE COMPANY BECAUSE, AS I HAVE BEEN TOLD BY BOTH DOCTORS AND LAWYERS, HE IS NO LONGER ABLE TO.
IS HE?
STARK INDUSTRIES
NOT IN THE SENSE YOU MEAN, MR. LYNCH.
NO.
TRUTH! THANK YOU, FRIDAY.
NOW DO YOU AGREE THAT WITH MR. STARK UNABLE TO RUN THIS COMPANY, THERE ARE CERTAIN PROTOCOLS IN PLACE?
THAT THE BOARD IS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE OVER AND--
IF YOU'LL LET ME EXPLAIN.
MARY JANE, THOUGH I WILL ALWAYS HOLD YOUR SPORTS ILLUSTRATED PHOTO SPREADS CLOSE TO MY HEART...
...THERE IS NO WAY IN HELL YOU ARE GOING TO BE ALLOWED TO RUN THIS COMPANY FOR ONE SECOND LONGER.
I'M NOT RUNNING THE COMPANY...
...SIR.
THEN WHO IS?

OH, NO! IS--IS THE HOLOGRAM--?
NO, SIR.
SO NO ONE IS?
BEFORE MR. STARK WAS INCAPACITATED, HE MADE SOME CHANGES TO HIS LIVING WILL.
WHO'S RUNNING THIS COMPANY, FRIDAY?
HIS MOTHER.
TONY STARK'S MOTHER WAS NAMED MARIA AND SHE DIED YEARS AGO.
FUNNY THING, THOUGH, TONY WAS ADOPTED.
MARIA WAS HIS ADOPTED MOTHER.
HE RECENTLY FOUND HIS BIOLOGICAL MOTHER.
SINCE WHEN?
AND GAVE HER THE "POWER OF ATTORNEY" IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.
SINCE WHEN?
SINCE WHEN?!
WE REALLY SHOULD PUT OUT A NEWSLETTER MORE OFTEN.
SO WHO IS RUNNING THIS COMPANY?!
HER NAME IS AMANDA ARMSTRONG.

I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT IS.
AMANDA ARMSTRONG IS TONY'S BIOLOGICAL MOTHER.
DID YOU NOT CATCH THAT?
SHE'S WAITING TO MEET YOU.
SHE'S HERE?
IN THE LAB.
IN THE LAB?!
YOU HAVE TO HAVE TOP SECURITY CLEARANCES TO GET INTO THIS LAB.
YES, SIR.
YOU KNOW YOU REALLY WANT TO, YOU REALLY WANT TO...
...BUT I DO, TOO...
AMANDA?
AH, MR. LYNCH.
THE ACOUSTICS IN HERE ARE INSANE. I MIGHT HAVE TO RECORD HERE.
WHY--WHY DO YOU LOOK FAMILIAR?
OH, UH, YOU PROBABLY KNOW ME AS...AMANDA STRONG.
STRONG?
THAT'S MY...STAGE NAME.
OH @#$@$#!
HI.
OH MY GOD!
I'M--I'M--I'M A HUGE FAN.
UH, WHY ARE YOU HERE?
OH, YOU'RE THE ONE.

YOU ARE TONY STARK'S MOTHER?
IT'S A WHOLE THING. I'M SURE FRIDAY FILLED YOU IN.
I'M A HUGE FAN.
YOU SAID.
SO, LISTEN, ERIC...
...I AM SURE WE WILL GET ALONG FAMOUSLY.
UM...
I THINK THE TRICK IS THAT--YOU KNOW THE RESPECT AND COURTESY YOU SHOWED MY TONY?
Y-YES.
DOUBLE IT.
BECAUSE AS FAR AS I CAN MAKE OUT...
...YOU TREATED MY SON VERY DISRESPECTFULLY.
SHAMEFULLY SO.
LISTEN, I AM NOT WITHOUT EMPATHY.
I KNOW YOU'RE SO HORNY TO TAKE OVER THIS PLACE YOU CAN TASTE IT.
I KNOW THIS BECAUSE I'VE BEEN DEALING WITH GUYS LIKE YOU MY ENTIRE CAREER.
SO ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS: DON'T TAKE ME FOR A FOOL AND DON'T TAKE ME FOR GRANTED.
YES--YES...
MA'AM?
GOOD BOY.
ALWAYS NICE TO MEET A FAN.
CHUNK

WOW!
THAT WAS FUN.
I LOVE YOU!
THAT-- THAT WAS INSPIRING.
I'VE BEEN IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY SINCE THE EIGHTIES.
THIS IS NOTHING.
OKAY, SO THAT BRAVADO ASIDE, FRIDAY, YOU CAN RUN THIS PLACE, RIGHT?
I'VE BEEN DOING IT EVERY SINGLE SECOND OF EVERY DAY SINCE I WAS CREATED.
SO YOU GOT THIS?
IT'S GOT.
CAN YOU FIX WHAT'S BROKEN AROUND HERE?
ARE YOU EMPOWERED TO GET THIS PLACE CRACKLING AGAIN?
ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS TELL ME TO.
AND IN YOUR NAME I WILL DO JUST THAT.
THE ORDER IS GIVEN.
IT'S DONE.
THANK GOD, BECAUSE I COULDN'T DO IT...
UM...
...BUT NOTHING TOO SKYNET THOUGH, OKAY?
THAT MOVIE IS INSPIRING...
JOKING.
AND MEANWHILE, MS. WATSON, YOU AND I--
YOU'RE KEEPING ME ON BOARD?
YOU AND I ARE GOING TO SPEND SOME OF MY SON'S MONEY.
MA'AM?

WE'RE GOING TO DO SOME GOOD.
LET'S FIX SOME THINGS IN THIS WORLD.
I LIKE GOOD.
YES, MA'AM!
LIKE WHAT, EXACTLY?
FIRST OFF, JAMES RHODES IS GONE.
AND MY BOY IS NOT...
YES, MA'AM.
...GOING TO BE IRON MAN...
I'M SORRY.
IT JUST HITS ME OUT OF NOWHERE.
HE AND I-- WE FINALLY FOUND EACH OTHER AND NOW HE'S--
YES, MA'AM.
MY POINT IS...
DOES THE LACK OF "IRON" PEOPLE IN THE WORLD...?
IS THIS SOMETHING WE CAN FIX?
WELL, MA'AM...
...TONY ACTUALLY ALREADY PUT THAT INTO PLACE.
FRIDAY...
HOW SO?
THERE'S A BRILLIANT YOUNG WOMAN IN CHICAGO NAMED RIRI WILLIAMS WHO HAD ALREADY CREATED HER OWN ARMOR AND STARTED ON HER OWN PATH.
TONY INSTRUCTED ME TO MAKE SURE SHE HAS EVERYTHING SHE NEEDS TO SUCCEED.
DOES SHE *HAVE* EVERYTHING SHE NEEDS TO SUCCEED?
WELL...
...HE ALREADY SENT HIS FAVORITE THING...

"...HE SENT HIMSELF."

CHICAGO.

RIRI'S GARAGE.

I KNOW YOU'RE NOT BREATHING BECAUSE YOU'RE AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HOLOGRAPHIC CONSTRUCT IN THE FORM OF TONY STARK--

--BUT I SWEAR TO GOD IT FEELS LIKE YOU ARE BREATHING ON MY NECK.

MAYBE YOU'RE HAVING A STROKE.

I'M FIFTEEN.

UNBORN BABIES CAN HAVE STROKES.

THANK YOU FOR *THAT*.

THIS NEW MODEL IS COMING ALONG.

BY FOUR PERCENT. I DIDN'T WANT TO BE RUDE. I WAS GOING TO ADJUST THEM WHEN YOU WEREN'T LOOKING.

COMPRESSORS ARE OFF.

HEY...

...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO CALL MYSELF.

YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING LIKE A SUPER HERO NAME?

EXACTLY LIKE A SUPER HERO NAME...

I ASSUMED "IRON GIRL."

"IRON WOMAN"?

YOU REALLY THINK I COULDN'T THINK OF *THAT* MYSELF?

I'M *REALLY* NOT A FAN OF SEXUAL IDENTITY AS A QUALIFIER.

SHE-HULK.

WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S BASICALLY THE SAME AS IRON MAN.

IT'S JUST AN IDENTIFIER.

IT'S AN ANTIQUATED AND WEIRD LINE IN THE SAND.

LIKE "*BEST ACTOR*" AND "*BEST ACTRESS*"... WHY ARE THEY SEPARATE?

FE-MALE.

WHAT?

FE IS THE SYMBOL FOR IRON.

FE-MALE AS IN YOU ARE A--

THEN DON'T ASK ME!
I'M AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TRYING TO KEEP YOU FROM BLOWING YOURSELF UP.
ASK A HUMAN PERSON.
ASK A FRIEND.
DO YOU HAVE ANY FRIENDS?
DO YOU HAVE AN OFF SWITCH?
I NEVER SEE ANY OTHER KIDS AROUND.
THERE'S NOTHING IN YOUR TEXTS.
DON'T GO THROUGH MY TEXTS!
NO ONE SINCE THIS NATALIE WASHINGTON.
CLANG

HAVE YOU NOT HAD A FRIEND SINCE SHE DIED?
IT'S BEEN YEARS.
THAT'S NOT HEALTHY.
GO AWAY!
I MEAN IT.
YOU--YOU CAN'T JUST HAUNT ME!
I DIDN'T ASK FOR THIS.
I'M NOT JOKING. GO AWAY.
I'M SORRY I BROUGHT IT UP, BUT IT'S A SERIOUS PSYCHOLOGICAL--
THIS ISN'T FAIR.
YOU DID, ACTUALLY.
YOU ASKED FOR THIS EXACTLY.
YOU WANTED MY HELP.

YOU WANTED ME TO GET YOU AN A.I. TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR SUIT'S FUNCTIONS.
THIS IS ME. THIS IS IT.
YOU ASKED FOR THIS.
YOU'RE A PROGRAM! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HUMAN EMOTIONS!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND-- AGH!
THIS THING IS SO GROSS.
JUST BECAUSE I CAN'T FEEL SOMETHING DOESN'T MEAN I DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS FEELING.
NATALIE DIED A FEW YEARS AGO. MAYBE YOU DON'T--
DO NOT SPEAK HER NAME!

OKAY. BUT SHE DIED OF A GUNSHOT.
RANDOM GUN VIOLENCE.
YEAH, SURE, RANDOM.
IT WASN'T? THE REPORT SAYS--
THE PHRASE IS SICKENING. IT'S NOT RANDOM.
A GUY POINTED A GUN AND SHOT A BULLET.
IT'S THE ONLY POSSIBLE RESULT OF THAT ACTION.
IT'S THE OPPOSITE OF RANDOM.
I THINK THE PHRASE REFERS TO THE RANDOMNESS OF THE RESULT.
AND YOU THINK IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN YOU?

IT SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ANYBODY!

WE WERE AT A PICNIC!

AND MY STEPDAD, NAT...

...I MEAN, WE WERE AT A PICNIC!

AND BOTH OF THEM GET SHOT RIGHT IN THE HEART.

RIGHT IN THE HEART!

AND NOW YOU BUILD ARMOR.

IRONHEART.

NOW YOU LISTEN TO--!

UH-OH.

NO, NO.

I'M THINKING ABOUT IT.

I'M NOT "UH-OH"-ING ABOUT THAT.

DO YOU KNOW WHO PEPPER POTTS IS?

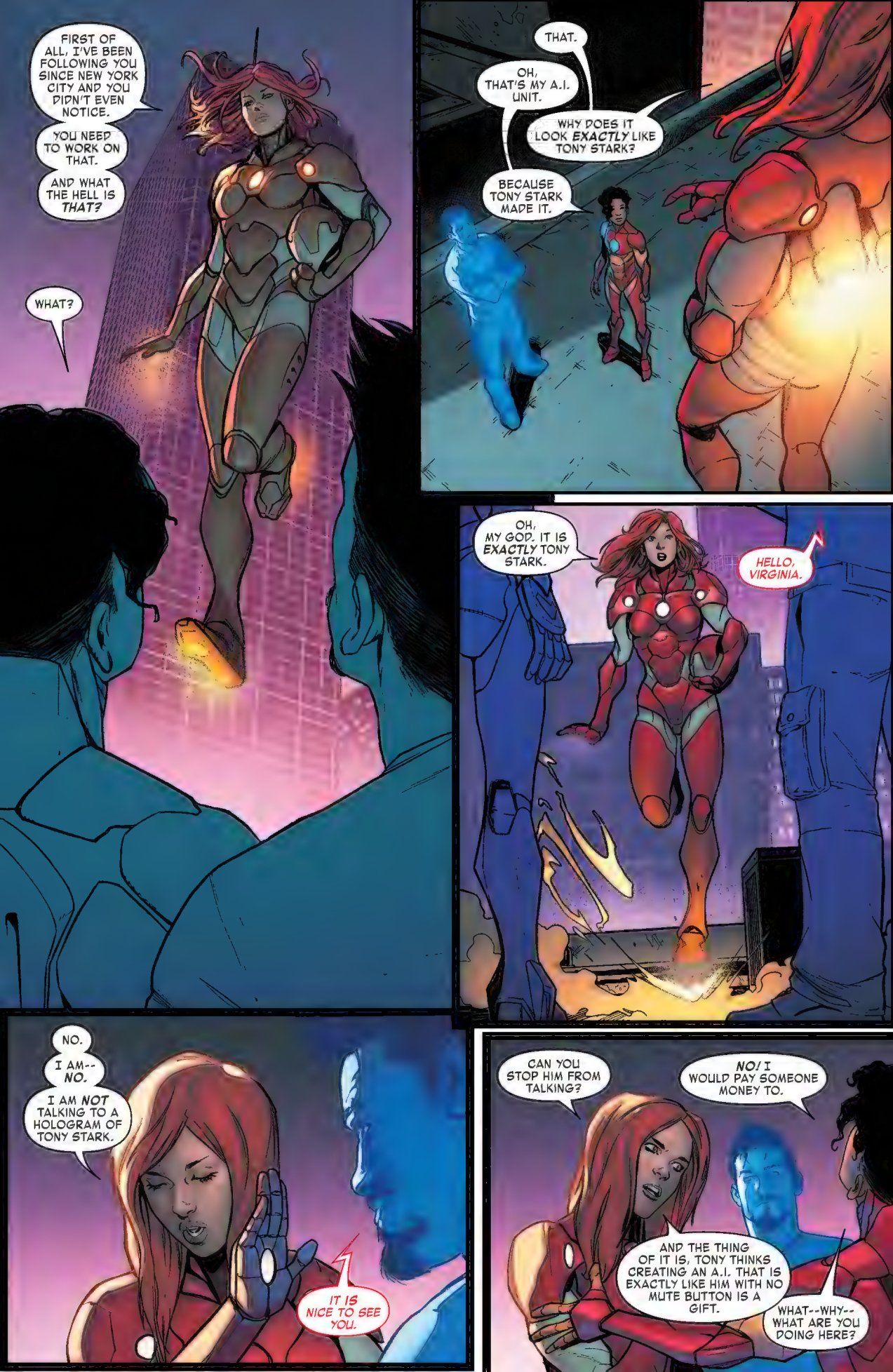
OF COURSE!

SHE USED TO RUN STARK RESILIENT.

SHE DOES ALL THIS BIG CHARITY STUFF.

SHE'S A TOTAL BAD--

SHE'S BEHIND YOU.


FIRST OF ALL, I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING YOU SINCE NEW YORK CITY AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE.
YOU NEED TO WORK ON THAT.
AND WHAT THE HELL IS *THAT?*
WHAT?
THAT.
OH, THAT'S MY A.I. UNIT.
WHY DOES IT LOOK *EXACTLY* LIKE TONY STARK?
BECAUSE TONY STARK MADE IT.
OH, MY GOD. IT IS *EXACTLY* TONY STARK.
HELLO, VIRGINIA.
NO.
I AM-- *NO.*
I AM *NOT* TALKING TO A HOLOGRAM OF TONY STARK.
IT IS NICE TO SEE YOU.
CAN YOU STOP HIM FROM TALKING?
NO! I WOULD PAY SOMEONE MONEY TO.
AND THE THING OF IT IS, TONY THINKS CREATING AN A.I. THAT IS EXACTLY LIKE HIM WITH NO MUTE BUTTON IS A GIFT.
WHAT--WHY-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

HI.
HI.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
RI--
AND BEFORE YOU ANSWER, ASK YOURSELF: DO I WANT TO GIVE THIS STRANGER, WHO I MAY HAVE READ ABOUT BUT NEVER MET...
...THIS STRANGER, WHO MAY OR MAY NOT EVEN BE WHO THEY APPEAR TO BE, BECAUSE IN THE WORLD OF SUPER-POWERS, ANYTHING COULD BE POSSIBLE...
...DO I WANT TO GIVE THIS MYSTERY PERSON ANY INFORMATION THAT COULD HURT ME OR MY LOVED ONES?
YOU'RE PEPPER POTTS.
YOU ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE ENTIRE IRON MAN LEGACY.
WITHOUT YOU, THERE WOULD BE NO IRON MAN LEGACY.
MY NAME IS RIRI WILLIAMS.
IT'S INSANELY COOL TO MEET YOU.
OH, I LIKE HER.
SHE'S THE REAL DEAL.
I WAS HERE FIVE SECONDS AND I TALKED TO THE FAKE TONY PROGRAM.
FIVE SECONDS.
IT'S STILL NICE TO SEE YOU.
WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU TWO?

WHAT YOU SAID BEFORE: I DO TAKE A LOT OF PRIDE IN MY PLACE IN ALL OF THIS.
EVEN THOUGH...
IT WAS PERSONAL. IT DOESN'T GET MORE PERSONAL.
WHAT WAS THE FALLING-OUT?
I'M SORRY.
NO. IT'S A FAIR QUESTION.
THAT I GET ASKED THREE TIMES A DAY.
BUT BACK TO YOU.
I WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND EXACTLY WHAT YOU ARE GETTING INTO WITH THIS...
...BECAUSE THIS IS A LIFE WHERE THERE IS LITERALLY DANGER AT EVERY--
--TURN.
UM...
HOW DID YOU DO *THAT?*
THIS ISN'T ME.
IS THIS A TEST?
THIS IS... REAL.

THIS IS TROUBLE.
TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE:

THE TECHNO GOLEM

Send letters to **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM** marked **"OKAY TO PRINT!"**

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS • STEFANO CASELLI • MARTE GRACIA
INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN
MARVEL
#4

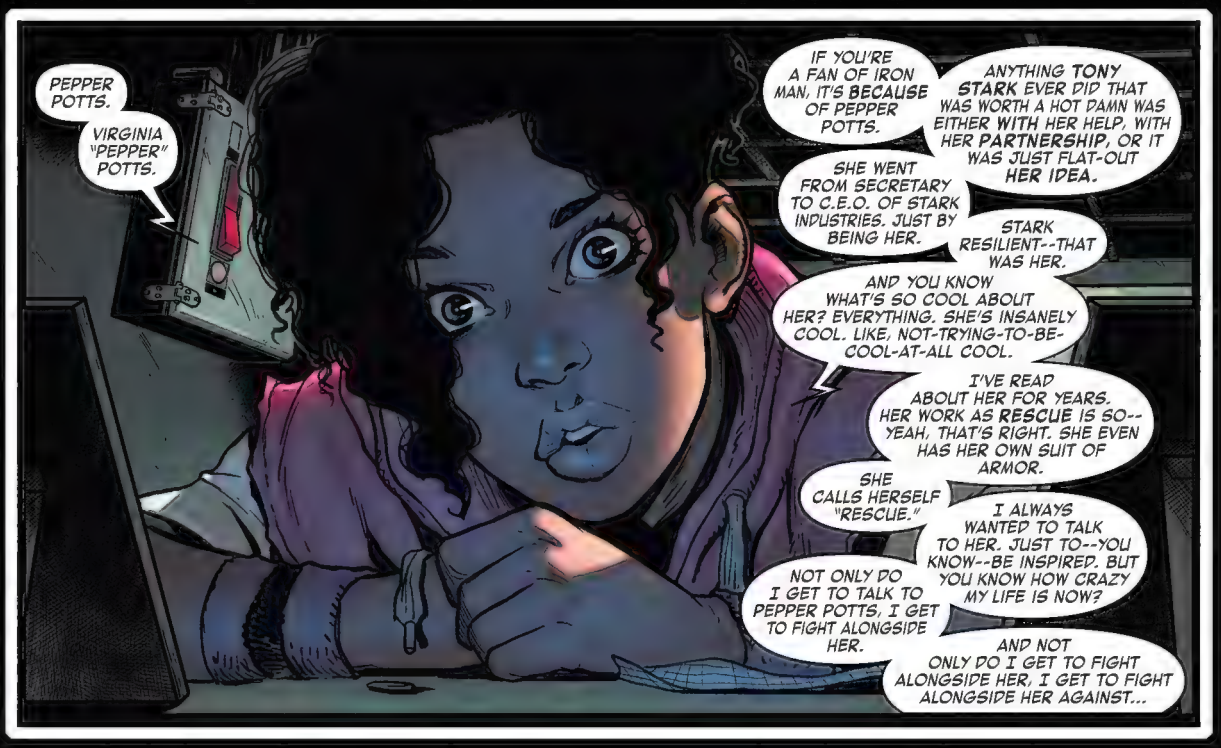
INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS WRITER

STEFANO CASELLI ARTIST

MARTE GRACIA COLOR ARTIST

VC's CLAYTON COWLES LETTERER


PEPPER POTTS.
VIRGINIA "PEPPER" POTTS.
IF YOU'RE A FAN OF IRON MAN, IT'S BECAUSE OF PEPPER POTTS.
ANYTHING TONY STARK EVER DID THAT WAS WORTH A HOT DAMN WAS EITHER WITH HER HELP, WITH HER PARTNERSHIP, OR IT WAS JUST FLAT-OUT HER IDEA.
SHE WENT FROM SECRETARY TO C.E.O. OF STARK INDUSTRIES. JUST BY BEING HER.
STARK RESILIENT--THAT WAS HER.
AND YOU KNOW WHAT'S SO COOL ABOUT HER? EVERYTHING. SHE'S INSANELY COOL. LIKE, NOT-TRYING-TO-BE-COOL-AT-ALL COOL.
I'VE READ ABOUT HER FOR YEARS. HER WORK AS RESCUE IS SO-- YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. SHE EVEN HAS HER OWN SUIT OF ARMOR.
SHE CALLS HERSELF "RESCUE."
I ALWAYS WANTED TO TALK TO HER. JUST TO--YOU KNOW--BE INSPIRED. BUT YOU KNOW HOW CRAZY MY LIFE IS NOW?
NOT ONLY DO I GET TO TALK TO PEPPER POTTS, I GET TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE HER.
AND NOT ONLY DO I GET TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE HER, I GET TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE HER AGAINST...

STEFANO CASELLI & MARTE GRACIA COVER ARTISTS

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NINJAS! ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

HONEST-TO-GOD, REAL NINJAS?

THIS IS BAD.

OR, JUST HEAR ME OUT, IT MIGHT BE AWESOME.

THEY JUST TOOK THE ARMOR RIGHT OFF OUR BACKS AND MADE A *GIANT IRON-PERSON.*

WHICH *SHOULD* BE AN IMPOSSIBILITY.

NO OFFENSE, MISS POTTS, BUT YOU'RE *RUINING* THIS FOR ME.

I TEND TO DO THAT.

YOU'RE NOT THE FIRST PERSON TO POINT IT OUT.

DO WE FIGHT?

WITH WHAT?
SEE, YOU JUST DID IT AGAIN.
DO YOU KNOW ANY OF THESE FINE FOLKS?
NO.
AT LEAST, I DON'T THINK SO, THEY'RE WEARING MASKS.
HEY, YOU!
THE ONE WEARING MY STUFF!
ARE YOU IN CHARGE?
AM I TALKING TO YOU?
YOU ARE.
YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
WE DO, MISS POTTS.
AND YOU ARE?
THE FUTURE.
DO YOU KNOW HOW TO FIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW.
YOU DON'T KNOW?

I HAVEN'T BEEN IN THAT MANY FIGHTS.
WELL, THEN, YOU NEED TO RUN.
I CAN'T DO *THAT*.
YOU *NEED* TO RUN.
ARE *YOU* NINJA-PROOF?
NO.
THEN I'M NOT LEAVING YOU.
RACHEL.
RIRI.
RIRI, WHEN I SAY GO...
...GO.
OR...
WHAT?
SHOULD I JUST GO IF I SEE AN OPENING?
WELL, SURE.
OKAY.
GO!

HA!
NO GAMES.
HVMMMMMMM
SCRAASSCKKEE

SKABOOM
CRACK
AGH!

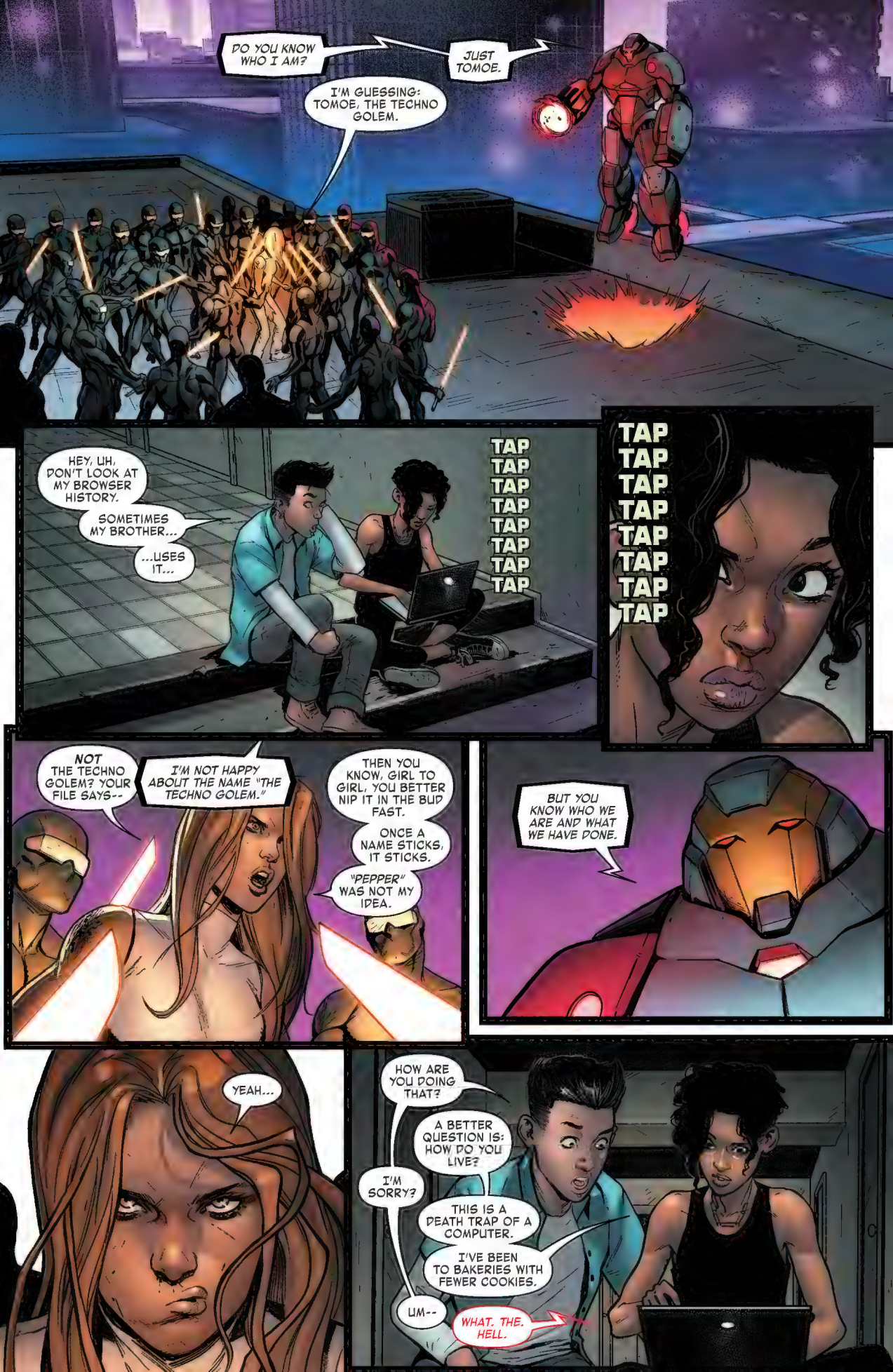
WHUMP
SKRAAKK
YIPES!

AGH!
NO!
AGH!
SHWACK
REGGIE!

OOOF.
CLANG
AGGH!
CRAASHH

I'M THE DISCO DAZZLER!
DAZZLER DAZZLER DISCO!
YOU!

SCRAAZZAAMM
MAKE ROOM.
SMACK
AGH!
3" FLOOR
HI.
HEY.
HI.
CAN I BORROW THAT?
OKAY.
TIME OUT.
VIRGINIA POTTS.
YOU'RE A FINER WARRIOR THAN YOUR REPUTATION ALLOWS.
WHAT?
DO I KNOW YOU?
DO YOU LIVE HERE?
YOUR LAPTOP.
NO.
BUT IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT.
TELL US ABOUT YOUR NEW PROTÉGÉ.
OH, HER?
I JUST MET HER. HONEST TO GOD.
I WORK NEAR HERE.
JUST-- IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT.
HI.
THANK YOU.


DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
JUST TOMOE.
I'M GUESSING: TOMOE, THE TECHNO GOLEM.
HEY, UH, DON'T LOOK AT MY BROWSER HISTORY.
SOMETIMES MY BROTHER...
...USES IT...
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
NOT THE TECHNO GOLEM? YOUR FILE SAYS--
I'M NOT HAPPY ABOUT THE NAME "THE TECHNO GOLEM."
THEN YOU KNOW, GIRL TO GIRL, YOU BETTER NIP IT IN THE BUD FAST.
ONCE A NAME STICKS, IT STICKS.
"PEPPER" WAS NOT MY IDEA.
BUT YOU KNOW WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE HAVE DONE.
YEAH...
HOW ARE YOU DOING THAT?
A BETTER QUESTION IS: HOW DO YOU LIVE?
I'M SORRY?
THIS IS A DEATH TRAP OF A COMPUTER.
I'VE BEEN TO BAKERIES WITH FEWER COOKIES.
UM--
WHAT. THE. HELL.

AM I INSIDE A CRAPPY LAPTOP?

TONY STARK'S DIGITAL SOUL, MEET... THIS GUY.
WHAT HAPPENED TO US ON THE ROOFTOP?
NINJAS. GLOWING SWORDS. ONE GIRL TOOK OUR ARMOR SUITS, TURNED THEM INTO ONE BIG ONE, AND COMMANDEERED THE SYSTEMS.
TOMOE.

ANSWER ME.

THE TECHNO GOLEM.
OH, YEAH.
YOU KNOW HER?!
HUGE TECHNO-BASED JAPANESE ORGANIZED CRIME CARTEL RUN BY AN INHUMAN WHO TAKES OVER TECH BY SHEER FORCE OF WILL.
ONE OF MY LAST FIGHTS IN MY PHYSICAL FORM.
MY LAST TEAM-UP WITH JAMES RHODES, ACTUALLY.

OH! THIS IS WHY YOU WENT UNDERCOVER IN JAPAN AND EVERYONE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!
YES.
TELL ME YOU ALREADY DEVELOPED A VIRUS TO TAKE OUT THEIR CLOSED-NETWORK SYSTEM THROUGH THE ENERGY FLUCTUATIONS IN THE IMPACT NINJA ARMOR!

UM...

"I DID, BUT--"
"NO! EITHER YOU DID OR YOU DIDN'T!"
"I DID, IN THEORY."
I'M ON IT.
I NEED A-- HEY, CAN YOU GET ME A SUIT?
STARK HQ
STARK (STRK) SHARES ARE EVEN WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A BOARD SHAKE-UP AND THE INSTALLATION OF AMANDA STRONG.
SO, THIS IS A LOT OF ARMOR.
IT'S HIS THING. WAS HIS THING. SORRY.
BUT, I MEAN, THESE ARE EXPENSIVE, MJ.
BOYS AND THEIR TOYS, AMANDA.
OH, SO THIS IS LIKE WHEN A SITCOM STAR HAS A BOATLOAD OF DOUGH AND BUYS A GARAGE FULL OF SPORTS CARS?
EXCEPT YOUR SON BUILT THESE AND MADE THE AVENGERS AND SAVED LIVES AND STUFF.
SO YOU'RE CATALOGUING THEM?
INVENTORY.
LADIES.
OH, MY GOD!
DON'T FREAK OUT.
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
WHICH ONE DO YOU WANT?
THE FASTEST ONE.

WAS THERE ANYONE ACTUALLY IN THAT ARMOR?
NOT THAT I'M AWARE OF.
BLOODY HELL.
YEAH.
MY MEN WILL FIND THE YOUNG GIRL SOON ENOUGH.
NO, YOU WON'T.
I CAN SEE HOW THIS SITUATION IS FRUSTRATING FOR YOU.
I CAN APPRECIATE THAT. I AM A FAN, MISS POTTS.
WOULD YOU LIKE AN AUTOGRAPH?
IF YOU DON'T COOPERATE, I'M GOING TO TAKE YOUR HEAD.
IS THIS LIKE A SCAVENGER HUNT?
SSSHH!
IS THIS REALLY HAPPENING?
HAND ME THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER OFF THE WALL.
"OH, STARK, WE SHOULD PROBABLY TELL S.H.I.E.L.D. OR SOMEONE."
"DONE.
"IS PEPPER STILL ALIVE?"

I HOPE SO.
SHAKOOM

I WOULDN'T DO THAT.

YOU SHOOT HER, I SHOOT YOU.
FAIR?
WHEN THE LITTLE TONY STARK ON THE COMPUTER TELLS YOU TO, HIT ENTER.
UH...
MORE ARMOR.
THANK YOU.
TONY?
NOW.
NOW.
NOW!
UH, DID YOU HIT ENTER WHEN HE SAID "NOW"?
BECAUSE YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO.
TO BE CONTINUED...

SOCK IT TO SHELL-HEAD!

Send letters to MHEROES@MARVEL.COM and don't forget to mark them **"OKAY TO PRINT!"**

Welcome back, Shell-Heads--Assistant Editor Alanna Smith here! Did you miss me? I missed you! We've got a boatload of letters this time around, so I'm just going to jump right in!

Just read INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #1. Loved the first issue. After the first few pages I was hooked on the story. Great job on the first issue and can't wait to read further issues with Riri. Been a comic book reader for a long time and this story so far is two thumbs up.

Shane Detert

Thanks, Shane! We love Riri too and hope we get to tell a lot of stories with her!

Hi Alanna,

This is my wife Marjorie's first draft of her Ironheart cosplay from last April's Romics.

Still working on it, but not bad as a start.

Marco & Marj

FINALLY! A cosplay picture! Marjorie looks AWESOME, and I hope you send us a pic of her second draft when she gets to it! (And people, seriously, send me cosplay pics! I know you're out there, I saw, like, five of you at NYCC this year!)

Move over, Mr. Stark, Riri is my Iron Man! (All right, Ironheart!) I admit, I was not sure what to expect when I picked up #1, but I instantly connected with Riri. It was heartbreaking seeing her past unfold over the first two issues, and a joy to discover more about her in the now. I love how passionate she is about her work, and I get the feeling we share super hero ethics. I think the thing that I relate to most though is her social awkwardness! Yay for us introverts!

I cannot wait to read Riri's future adventures. Welcome to the Marvel Universe Riri Williams! Hope you survive the experience!

Gavin Perkins

Glad you're liking Riri, Gavin! It's hard not to relate to her when Stefano draws her as such a personality. :)

Hi Alanna,

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #2 was great--seeing Riri in action pushed up the excitement. Pitching her against Tomoe is pretty tense--can't wait to see Riri and A.I. Tony beat some bad guys. I also can't wait to see her in the Ironheart suit. Please, don't kill Tony.

From an #Ironaddicted fan,
Jesse Miracle
Nigeria, West Africa

We've now revealed Tony's fate in CIVIL WAR II #8--be sure to check it out! (Here's a hint: We didn't quite kill him!)

I'm a Chicagoan, and reading the first two issues touched home. I lost an 11-year-old niece to unnecessary violence, so I'm rooting for Riri to win and overcome. I've read criticism over the violence, but violence and the lack of responsibility is what created Spider-Man. Keep adding layers to this wonderful new character. I guess we will see what she is made of even more as time moves forward. I love this book from front to back. The art is awesome as well, and the inks and the colors, and I don't even have to mention the great writing. I understand that Riri idealizes Iron Man, but I would love for her armor to eventually reflect her and being of the mindset of the "that was then and this is now" generation. I have two questions: What is the character Prodigy doing? Would be nice to see them interact once in a while. And what is Riri's real name? Because I know a lot of females named Riri and it's always short for something else.

Thanks for reading,
Oscar Martin

Hey, Oscar--so sorry to hear about your loss, and I hope this book brings you some small comfort.

To answer your questions, there are no current plans for Prodigy, and all we've revealed about Riri's real name so far is that it's based on her father's name. Riri's still wearing the red-and-gold because of the impact Tony made on her, but in the future, who knows? She's still evolving as a character and a hero, and her armor may evolve with her!

Dear Shell-Heads,

I'm sure you have many upset "fans" because they fear change. All fans are not afraid of change. I love change. Characters should go and life should progress. I'm a 30-year-old man and I think Riri is amazing. I personally love what Marvel is doing with the younger characters right now. I'm sure Tony will come back, but I hope that everything does not go back to the status quo with the same redundant stories. True fans love the characters enough to let them evolve. I just ask for good writing and good stories and right now I am getting both.

Thank you,
Larry Ware

Thank YOU, Larry! Shaking up the status quo like this is always risky, and it's always awesome to hear from fans that stick with us through big transitions like this. You're a big part of the reason we can tell stories like Riri's!

Loving Riri--I complain a lot, but this girl is awesome. It's nice that she has her own name already and Ironheart seems to fit nicely. Here it is, my one gripe: change the color scheme. Maybe I'm just a guy, but I'd love to see some pink on that armor. It would look killer with some silver or white. First I thought blue, but that's too similar to Iron Patriot, and there's another guy with green and purple. Let's put a new paint job on that hot rod at least by the time she has her own book. I mean, after Tony gets back in the game.

Thanks!
Alan Brown

A certain beloved video game has turned me off COMPLETELY to pink armor, but as I told Oscar, a color change isn't out of the question as Riri comes into her own!

And that's all we've got time for this month! Keep sending in your letters! I'll be here, assuming the post-vacation blues don't eat me alive. Until next time!

-The Invincible Alanna Smith

NEXT ISSUE:

TECHNO GOLEM TAKEDOWN

INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN
BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS • STEFANO CASELLI • MARTE GRACIA
MARVEL
#5

CHICAGO.
RIRI?
RIRI?
OH, OKAY, NO RIRI.
UH, MR. STARK?
ARE YOU IN THERE?

I KNOW YOU'RE NOT HERE. I MEAN THE COMPUTER YOU.
ARE YOU LIKE ONE OF THOSE SPEAKERS THAT PLAYS MUSIC OR TELLS YOU WHAT'S ON TV OR--
I JUST--
--I WORRY ABOUT RIRI.
I ALWAYS-- I MEAN, I KNOW ALL MOMMAS WORRY ABOUT THEIR BABIES, BUT I...
...I WORRY ABOUT HER.
SHE'S FIFTEEN.
AND SHE'S-- SHE'S SO MATURE, AND GROUNDED, AND, WELL...SMART.
AND I ALWAYS END UP TREATING HER LIKE SHE'S AN ADULT BECAUSE SHE ACTS JUST LIKE A LITTLE ADULT.
BUT SHE'S NOT.
SHE'S A KID.
AND NOW SHE'S OUT THERE FLYING AROUND IN A SUIT OF ARMOR SHE BUILT ALL BY HERSELF AND SHE'S NOT EVEN LEGALLY OLD ENOUGH TO DRIVE.
BUT I CAN'T STOP HER.
RIGHT? I CAN'T.
I CAN'T SAY TO A GIRL LIKE HER: "YOU ARE GROUNDED! NO MORE!
"YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO TRY TO BE A SUPER HERO AND MAKE THIS CESSPOOL OF A WORLD A BETTER PLACE..."
EVEN THOUGH IT HAS TAKEN EVERYTHING SHE HAS LOVED FROM HER...SHE STILL WANTS TO PROTECT IT.
WHO DOES THAT?
WHO DECIDES TO PROTECT A WORLD THAT HAS SHOWN HER NOTHING BUT THE BACK OF ITS HAND?
BUT IF I PUSH HER TOO HARD TO STOP, SHE'LL LEAVE.
BECAUSE SHE'S SMART ENOUGH TO FIGURE OUT SHE DOES NOT NEED TO STICK AROUND HERE.
AND THEN... I WON'T HAVE HER AT ALL.
AT LEAST LIKE THIS I CAN GUIDE HER A LITTLE-- KEEP AN EYE ON HER.
BUT SHE'S OUT THERE--SHE'S OUT THERE RIGHT NOW.
DOES THAT MAKE ME A BAD MOM?

I'VE LOST TWO HUSBANDS.
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU KNOW THAT.
I'M 40 YEARS OLD AND I'VE LOST *TWO* HUSBANDS.
IF I LOSE HER TOO...
UM...
THERE'S NO ONE HERE, IS THERE?
OKAY.
THIS NEVER HAPPENED.
"IRON MAN?!"

TOMOE, I WANT YOU TO LISTEN TO ME VERY CAREFULLY.

YOU SHOOT HER, I SHOOT YOU.

FAIR?

MORE ARMOR!

THANK YOU.

NOW.

NOW WHAT?

PUSH THE ENTER BUTTON!

NOW?

NOW!

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS
WRITER

STEFANO CASELLI
ARTIST

MARTE GRACIA
COLOR ARTIST

VC's CLAYTON COWLES
LETTERER

OKAY, THIS REALLY HAPPENED...
BIOHACK NINJAS FROM THE FAR EAST LED BY THIS CRAAAA-ZY INHUMAN, TOMOE, WHO CAN CONTROL TECHNOLOGY WITH HER MIND...
...WHICH IS A POWER I WOULD KILL FOR!
THIS WOMAN TONY STARK'S A.I. HAS DECIDED TO CALL THE TECHNO GOLEM SAW ME ON TV, THEN DECIDED TO FLY ALL THE WAY TO CHICAGO AND TAKE ME OUT BEFORE I BECOME AS BIG A PAIN IN HER BUTT AS TONY STARK WAS.
IT'S ALMOST FLATTERING, AND I DO ADMIRE THE FORWARD-THINKING PLAN, BUT THEY CAME AT ME WHEN I WAS HAVING MY FIRST-EVER MEETING WITH THE ORIGINAL, ONE AND ONLY PEPPER POTTS.
RESCUE.
SO PEPPER POTTS AND I TOTALLY TEAMED UP. NO BIG DEAL. JUST TEAMING UP WITH PEPPER POTTS.
SO, MID-FIGHT, THIS TOMOE TAKES OUR ARMOR RIGHT OFF OUR BACKS AND ONTO HERS...
...AND I SNEAK AWAY AND UPLOAD A VIRUS INTO A SET OF ARMOR FROM TONY STARK'S OLD COLLECTION.
ALL I NEED FOR TOMOE THE TECHNO GOLEM TO DO IS WHAT SHE DOES...

STEFANO CASELLI & MARTE GRACIA COVER ARTISTS
RICK LEONARDI & CHRIS SOTOMAYOR VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

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THE GREAT TONY STARK RETURNS AND MAKES THE SAME MISTAKE HE MADE LAST TIME.
THIS IS NOT TONY STARK.
THIS IS A--
HOW YA LIKE ME NOW?!

DAMN, I REALLY THOUGHT I TIMED THE VIRUS UPLOAD JUST--
KID!
RUN!
WAIT...
WHAT?
WWHHAAAAT DID YOU DOOOO?!

SORRY!
CLANG
WHOA...
YEAH...
CLOSED CIRCUIT SYSTEM ON ALL THE ARMORS?
I WOULD HAVE ADVISED AGAINST IT.
KID, I THINK YOU SHOULD RUN.
WHY? I JUST BEAT THE--

TOMOE, RIGHT?
SHOULD BE A BUTTON...
OH! THERE YOU GO...
DO YOU KNOW HOW TO FIGHT WITH A SWORD?
DO I?

YEARS AGO.
RIRI!
HEY, DAD.
I HAVE A NEW PROJECT FOR US.
WHAT?
TURN AND LOOK.
I'M KIND OF IN THE MIDDLE OF--
TURN.
SWORDS?
FENCING! I'LL TEACH YOU!
YOU KNOW HOW TO FENCE?
MY FATHER TAUGHT ME AND HIS FATHER TAUGHT HIM.
KINDA LIKE A JEDI. NO BIG DEAL.
DAD, COME ON...
THIS IS EXERCISE. MIND AND BODY. LET'S GO.
DAD.
I'M WORKING.
CALL ME FOR DINNER.
I LOVE YOU.

SPOK
AGH!
DID I WIN?
I HELPED.
WOW!
YEAH...
I MEAN IT!
UH--DO--UH, WHAT'S THE PROTOCOL? DO *WE* HAVE TO CLEAN THIS UP?
NO, NOT WHEN WE HAVE...
...S.H.I.E.L.D.
WHOA!
WHAT?
HOW ARE *THEY* HERE?

MY ARMOR IS TECHNICALLY A WEAPON OF WAR, SO I HAVE IT LOJACKED TO S.H.I.E.L.D. IN CASE ANYONE DOES ANYTHING TO IT, LIKE, YOU KNOW, WHAT JUST HAPPENED TO IT.
I SHOULD DO THAT, TOO, HUH?
IT'S CUTE THAT YOU'RE ASKING ME LIKE THEY'RE GOING TO GIVE YOU A CHOICE.
HI, SHARON.
WE PRESENT TO YOU...THE *TECHNO GOLEM AND THE BIOHACK NINJAS* FROM THE SOUTHEAST ASIA CRIME SYNDICATE.
THIS IS ACTUALLY THEM?
I HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE OTHERWISE.
WE HAVE *DOZENS* OF AGENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD LOOKING FOR THEM.
THAT'S THE HEAD LADY THERE...
TOMOE.
BUT HER POWER IS ALL ABOUT TECH CONTROL AND MANIPULATION, SO MAYBE GET THE GIANT FLOATING TANK AWAY FROM HER SO YOU DON'T HAVE ANOTHER *"RED RONIN"* SITUATION.
THAT WOULD BE KINDA COOL, ACTUALLY.
OH, YES. COMMANDER CARTER, MAY I INTRODUCE TO YOU--
RIRI WILLIAMS.
YOU WERE PART OF THAT SUPER HERO TRISKELION ATTACK.
YES, MA'AM.
NOT A GREAT WAY TO GET ON MY GOOD SIDE.

YOU'RE *TONY STARK'S* LITTLE PROJECT.

SKY-HIGH IQ, SOCIAL ISSUES, LIKES TO DRESS UP IN STOLEN PROPERTY.

MA'AM?

WELL, YOU'RE LEAVING OUT THE SUBTLE *FLAVORING* OF MY SPECIFIC FIELDS OF--

SHE DID ALL OF THIS?

SHE REALLY DID.

HOW *OLD* ARE YOU?

FIFTEEN.

REALLY?

I GUESS WE SHOULD TALK RECRUITMENT.

FOR WHO?

FOR YOU.

FOR WHERE?

FOR US. S.H.I.E.L.D.

YOU WANT *ME* TO BE AN *AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.?*

WELL, A *TRAINEE* TO START.

OF S.H.I.E.L.D.

YES.

ME?

WELL?

GOOD *GOD*, NO.

I'M SORRY?

NO, *I'M* SORRY. THAT CAME OUT HARSH.

IT'S JUST THAT I THINK S.H.I.E.L.D. MIGHT BE THE DEVIL...

...BUT I'M SURE *YOU'RE* A VERY NICE PERSON.

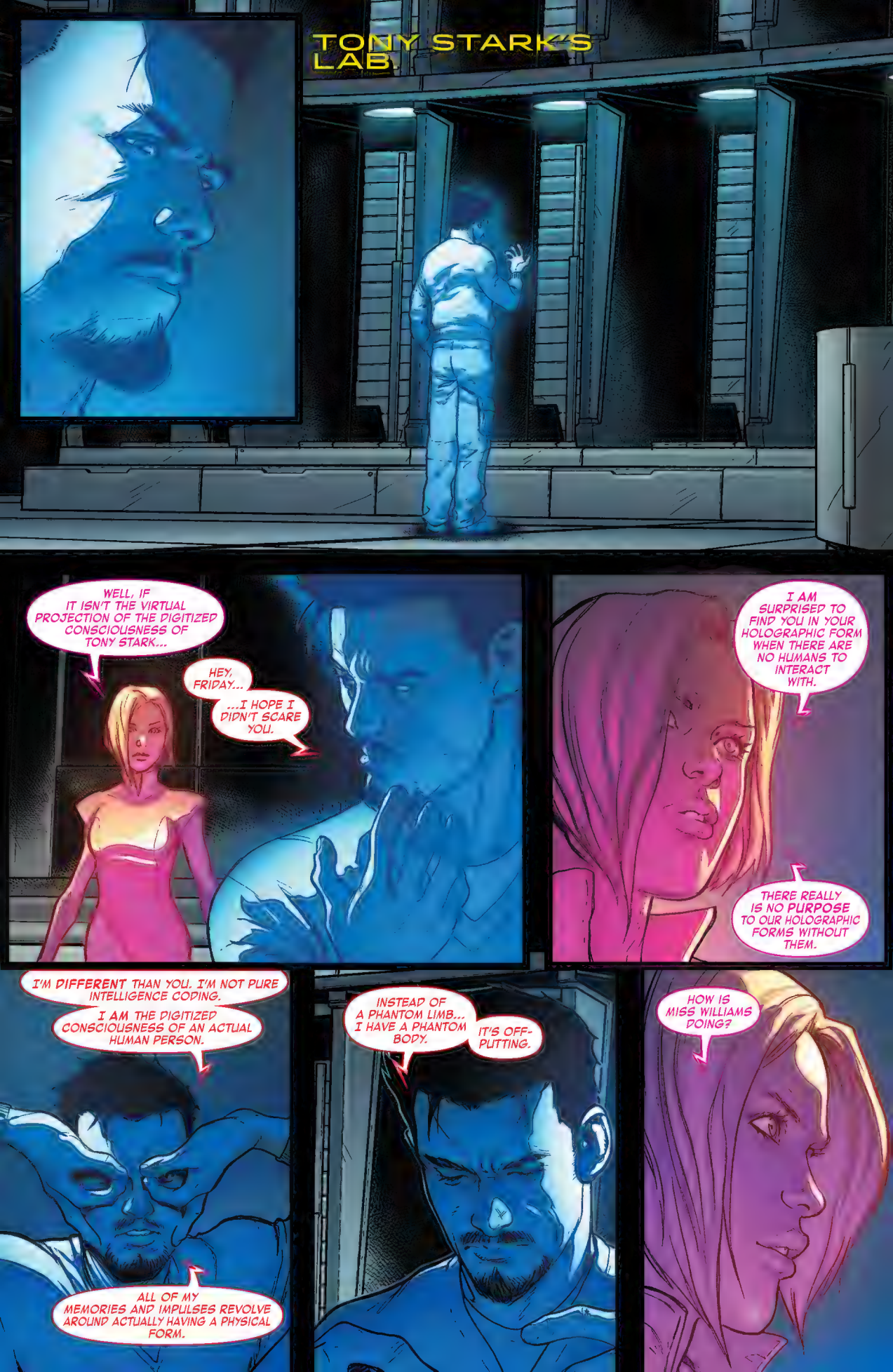
BIG HYDRA FAN, ARE YOU?

NO.
JUST BECAUSE I HAVE SERIOUS CONCERNS AND, I THINK, VALID CRITICISM OF YOUR SYSTEMATIC ABUSE OF POWER IN THE NAME OF GLOBAL PROTECTION...DOES NOT MEAN I'VE TAKEN A SIDE *AGAINST* YOU.
DO YOU *REALLY* THINK THAT, IF SOMEONE DOESN'T *LIKE* HOW YOU DO WHAT YOU DO, THEY'RE THE ENEMY?
MISS POTTS, LISTEN, I AM *SO* EXCITED WE MET, BUT I HAVE TO GET HOME. CAN WE GET TOGETHER ANOTHER TIME AND REALLY TALK?
ABOUT WHAT *YOU* WANTED TO TALK TO ME ABOUT.
ABSOLUTELY.
I MEAN IT.
I HAVE A MILLION QUESTIONS.
ARMORED HANDSHAKE!
I'LL CALL SOON.
AND I GUESS *YOU'LL* BE EAVESDROPPING ON US.

THE KID NEEDS TO LEARN SOME RESPECT.
MAYBE YOU NEED TO EARN IT.
DID I NOT SAY THANK YOU?
HEY! I JUST FLEW ALL THE WAY OVER HERE TO SAVE YOU.
I WAS THE ONE WHO--I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
ASK THE GIRL! WHERE'S THE GIRL? THERE WAS A GIRL!

RIRI?
RIRI?
NINJA!
ARE YOU OKAY?
I MUST HAVE PASSED OUT.
ARE YOU HURT?
COUPLE LITTLE SCRATCHES.
DID YOU CLEAN THEM?
I WAS GOING TO.
YOU'LL GET AN INFECTION.
OH, HEY! YEAH!
MY ARMOR MIGHT BE INFECTED FROM THE TECHNO GOLEM!
I NEED TO GO THROUGH ALL OF MY CODING TO MAKE SURE.
AND I CAN PUT SOME NEOSPORIN ON MY BOO-BOOS.
THANK YOU.
THAT WAS WEIRD--PASSING OUT LIKE THAT.
ARE YOU OKAY?

I JUST WAS--IT WAS A CRAZY DAY.
NINJA FIGHTS, PEPPER POTTS, I WAS ASKED TO BE AN AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D....
WOW.
YOU PROBABLY FAINTED FROM ALL THE EXCITEMENT.
I'M OKAY.
MOM.
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING.
I KNOW THIS SOUNDS CRAZY AND A LITTLE, I DON'T KNOW...
WHAT?
I THINK I MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO THIS.
I KNOW YOU CAN.
HEY, MAMA...
I KNOW YOU'RE BITING A HOLE IN YOUR LIP LETTING ME DO THIS...
...SO, THANK YOU.
STARK?
WHY IS THERE NEVER A VIRTUAL PROJECTION OF THE DIGITIZED CONSCIOUSNESS OF TONY STARK WHEN YOU NEED ONE?


TONY STARK'S LAB.
WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE VIRTUAL PROJECTION OF THE DIGITIZED CONSCIOUSNESS OF TONY STARK...
HEY, FRIDAY...
...I HOPE I DIDN'T SCARE YOU.
I AM SURPRISED TO FIND YOU IN YOUR HOLOGRAPHIC FORM WHEN THERE ARE NO HUMANS TO INTERACT WITH.
THERE REALLY IS NO PURPOSE TO OUR HOLOGRAPHIC FORMS WITHOUT THEM.
I'M DIFFERENT THAN YOU. I'M NOT PURE INTELLIGENCE CODING.
I AM THE DIGITIZED CONSCIOUSNESS OF AN ACTUAL HUMAN PERSON.
ALL OF MY MEMORIES AND IMPULSES REVOLVE AROUND ACTUALLY HAVING A PHYSICAL FORM.
INSTEAD OF A PHANTOM LIMB... I HAVE A PHANTOM BODY.
IT'S OFF-PUTTING.
HOW IS MISS WILLIAMS DOING?

THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU.
THERE IS A BETTER WAY TO DO THIS.
DO WHAT?
PROTECT THE GOOD FROM THE BAD.
AND WHAT WOULD THAT BE, PRAY TELL?
I'M SURE YOU'VE COME TO THE SAME LOGICAL CONCLUSIONS YOURSELF...
...IT'S THE HUMANS.
TO BE CONTINUED...

SOCK IT TO SHELL-HEAD!

Send letters to MHEROES@MARVEL.COM and don't forget to mark them **"OKAY TO PRINT!"**

Welcome back, shell-heads! In honor of Riri's first big victory, I thought we'd take a brief intermission from letters this month to bring you some SUPER-COOL CONTENT.

First, we heard from our Games division that Riri Williams is appearing in not one, but TWO Marvel games--Marvel Future Fight and Marvel Puzzle Quest. And just look how cool she is!

***Sniff* Our little baby's all grown up and appearing in video games. Don't sleep on this, friends! Go forth and get her!**

Also--we got another cosplay picture! Check it out!!

Hi Alanna,

Saw your request for more cosplay pictures in issue #4! I went as Riri for Halloween at work and called it my office-casual Ironheart. I can't wait to do something more at NYCC this year! I love this character so much.

Thanks!
Errin

Dang, Errin, you look great! Love the light-up arc reactor! If you do a full cosplay at NYCC, be sure to send us a picture, or pop by the Marvel booth to say hi--we love seeing Riri cosplayers!

Keep sending your letters, cosplay pics and fanart (oh, my kingdom for some sweet fanart) to MHEROES@MARVEL.COM marked "okay to print," and we'll print the best! Come back next month for more letters, and to find out what being a super hero full time is going to mean for Riri. See you then!

-The Invincible Alanna Smith

NEXT ISSUE:

ONWARDS AND UPWARDS!

JEFF DEKAL

1 VARIANT

SKOTTIE YOUNG

1 VARIANT

TOM RANEY & FRANK D'ARMATA

1 DIVIDED WE STAND VARIANT

MIKE McKONE & JASON KEITH

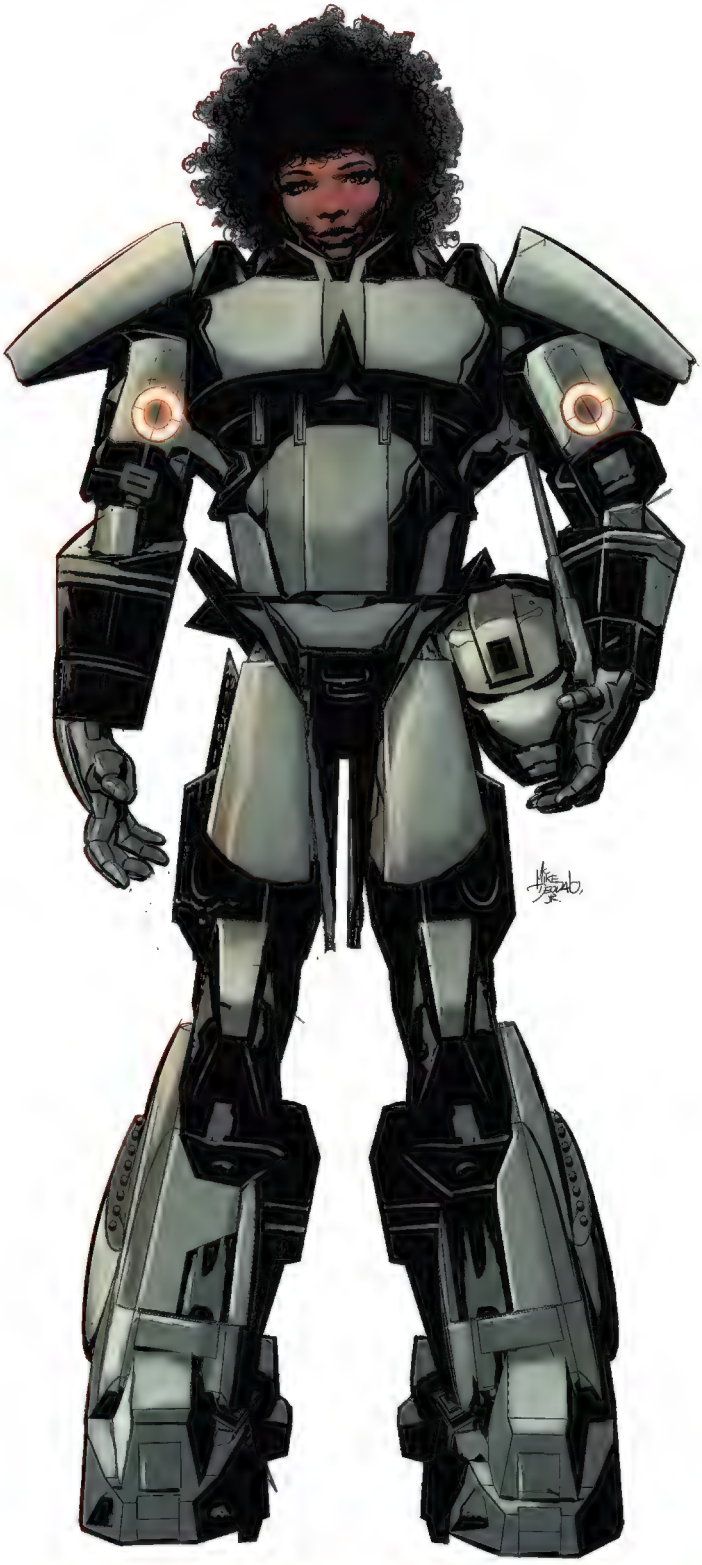
1 STEAM VARIANT

JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER

1 ACTION FIGURE VARIANT

ADI GRANOV

1 HIP-HOP VARIANT



MIKE DEODATO JR. & FRANK MARTIN

2 TEASER VARIANT

ANTHONY PIPER

2 VARIANT

J. SCOTT CAMPBELL

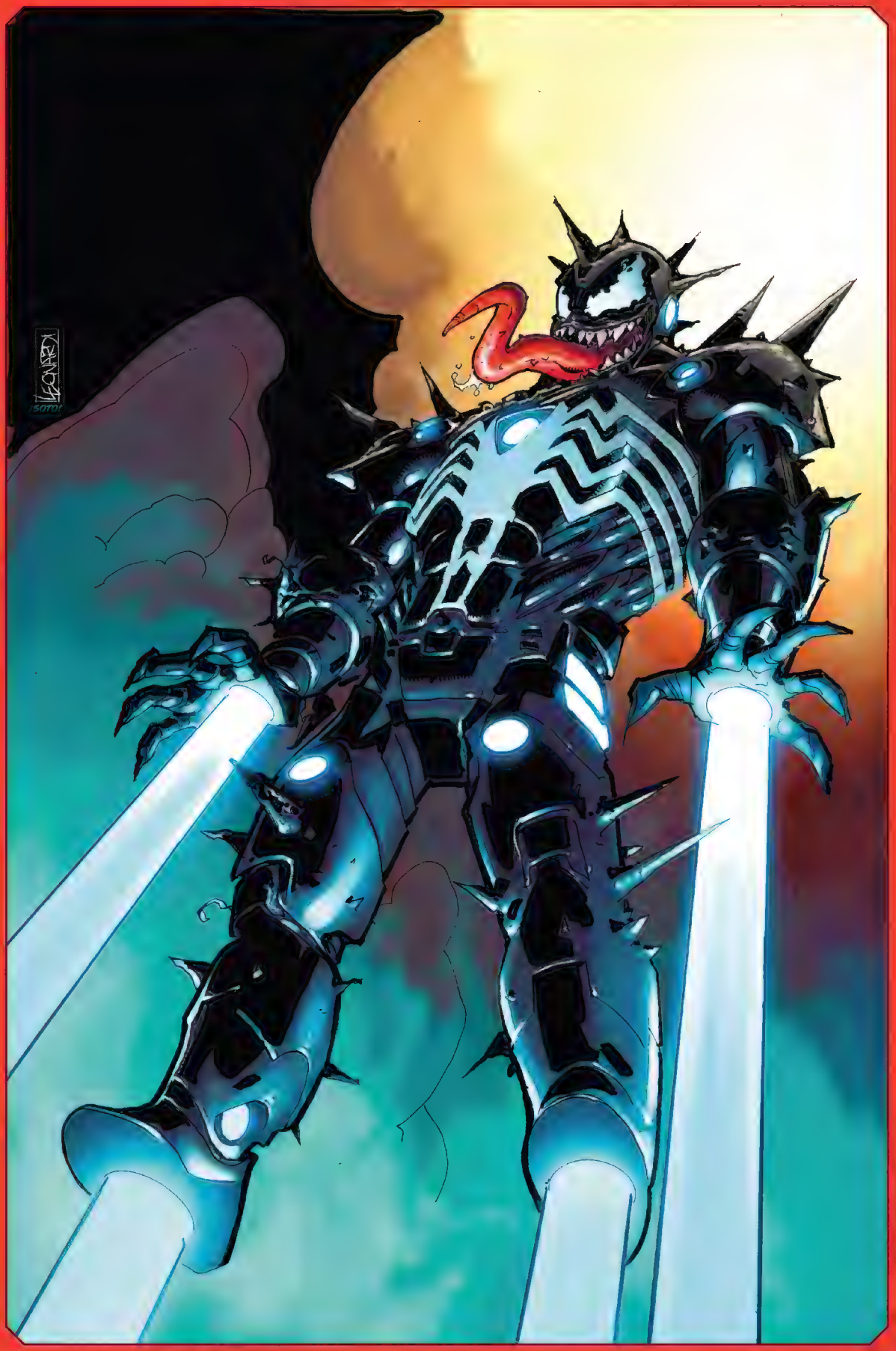
2 VARIANT

KRIS ANKA

3 VARIANT

JOE JUSKO

4 CORNER BOX VARIANT



RICK LEONARDI & CHRIS SOTOMAYOR

5 VENOMIZED VARIANT

STEFANO CASELLI

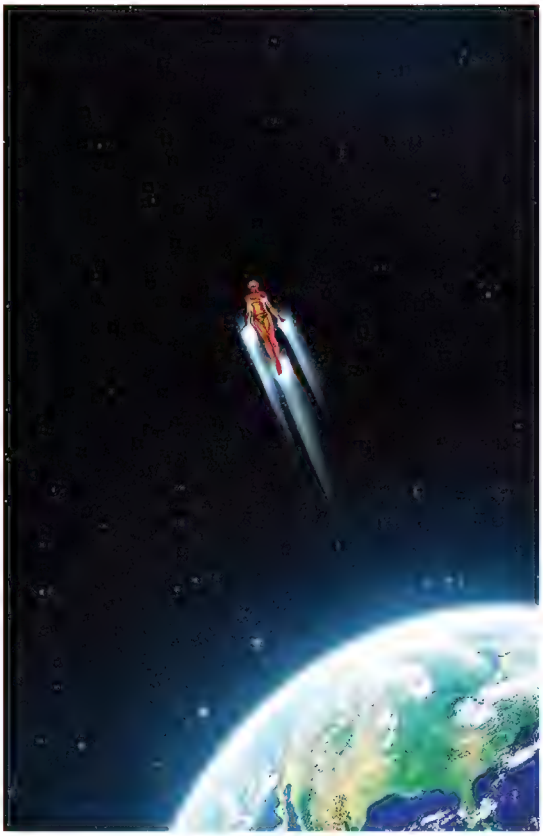
RIRI & IRONHEART CONCEPT ART

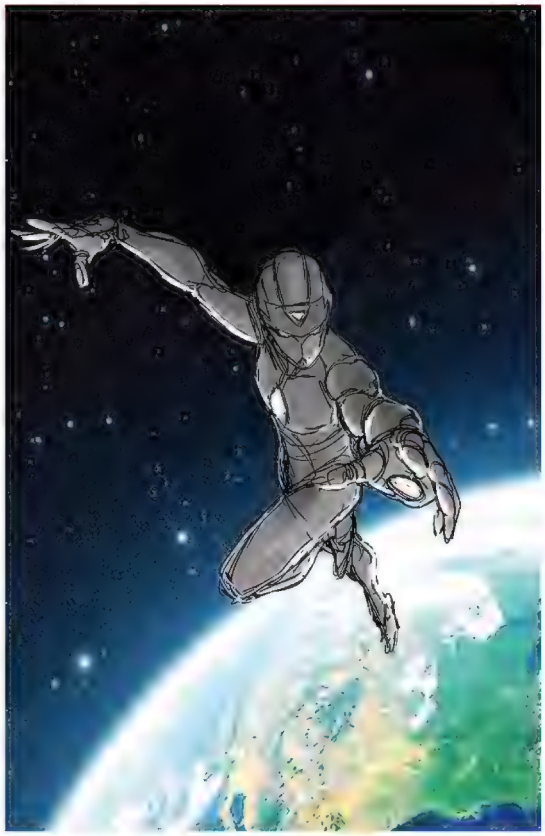
STEFANO CASELLI

ISSUE 1 COVER SKETCH & INKS

STEFANO CASELLI

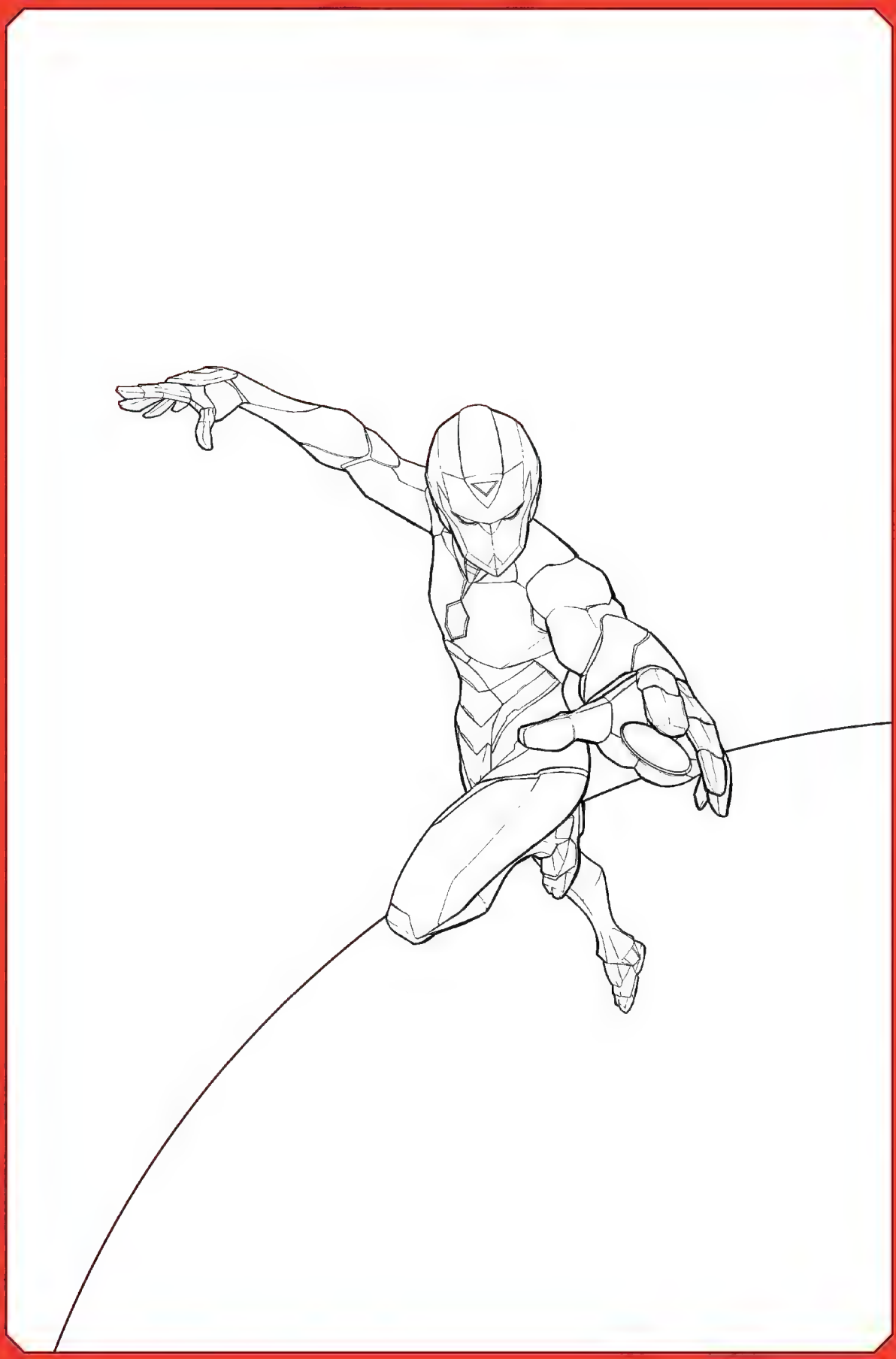
ISSUES 2-3 COVER SKETCHES





STEFANO CASELLI

ISSUE 2 COVER INKS



STEFANO CASELLI

ISSUE 4 COVER SKETCH & INKS

STEFANO CASELLI

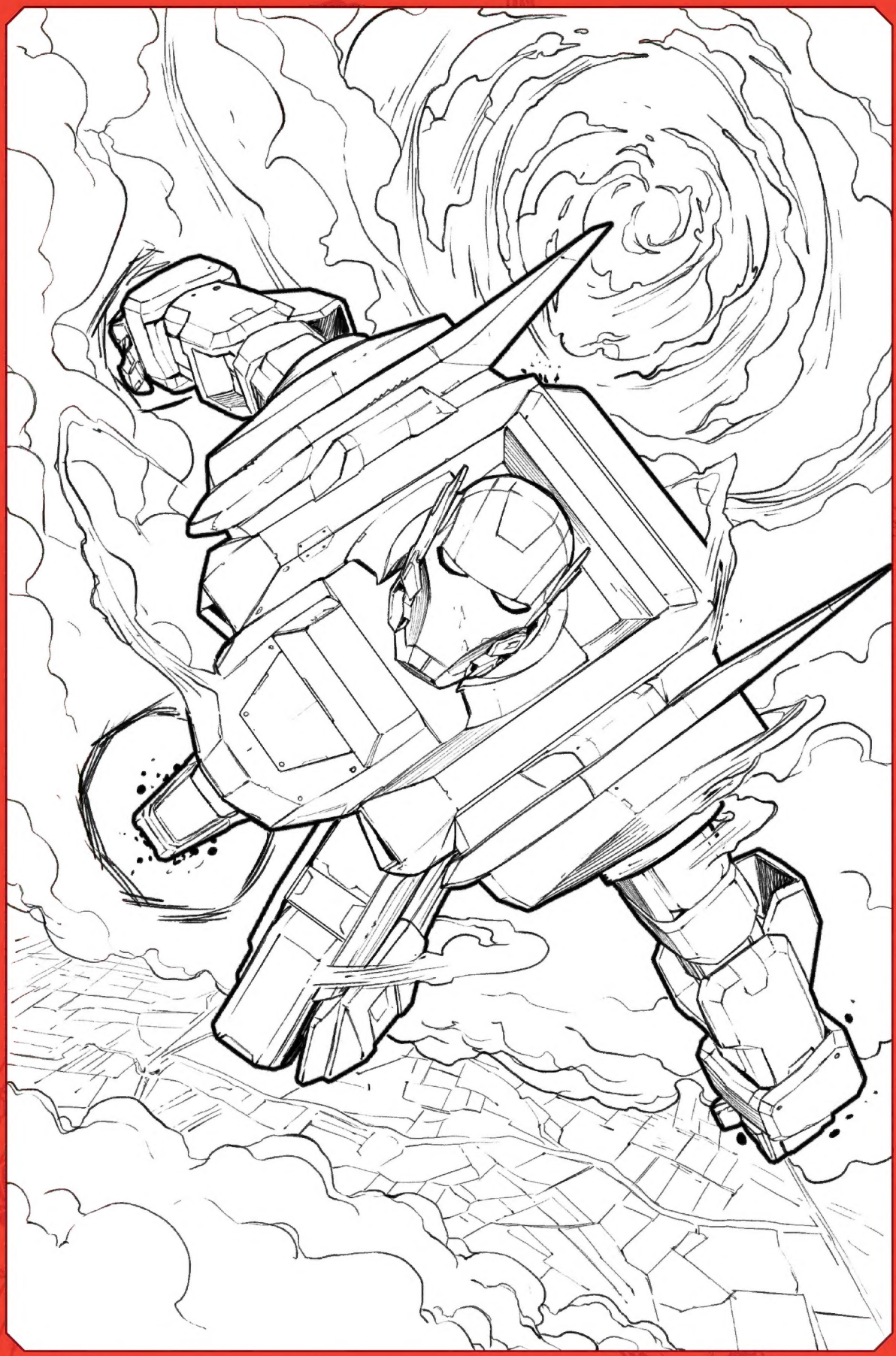
ISSUE 5 COVER SKETCH & INKS

STEFANO CASELLI

ISSUE 4, PAGE 2-3 ART

STEFANO CASELLI

ISSUE 1, PAGE 3 ART



MARVEL

"Riri is what a hero looks like in today's comic book, and I look forward to seeing what she does next."
– BlackNerdProblems.com

A NEW IRON AGE BEGINS!

CLAD IN HER OWN IRON MAN SUIT, Riri Williams is ready to show the world what she can do as the self-made hero of tomorrow. Her technology just might change the world forever – if she survives that long! But is she ready for all the problems that come with stepping into Iron Man's jet boots? Problems like her first big villain. And the other guy running around as shell-head. And the laundry list of criminals looking to destroy Tony Stark's legacy. Oh, and all the super-teams out to recruit her! It's time for Riri to claim an alter ego of her own – welcome to the Marvel Universe, Ironheart!

COLLECTING ***INVINCIBLE IRON MAN (2016) #1-5*** –
BY BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS, STEFANO CASELLI AND MARTE GRACIA.

T+